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THE TIMES

President Mitterrand's view of the world, page 14

Callaghan and Shore out to stop Benn

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

With Mr Wedgwood Benn, principal figure in the Labour Party's latest controversy, in hospital for the investigation of what is believed to be a viral infection, the rival forces in the dispute over the future direction of the party had the chance yesterday to prepare for the next stage of the argument.

Mr Michael Foot, the party leader, having challenged Mr Benn to follow the logic of his opposition to collective leadership and contest the party leadership in the autumn, held back from making any further move within the Parliamentary Labour Party, thinking it more seemly to wait until Mr Benn comes out of hospital.

Although last night he had not sent any message to Mr Benn in hospital, Mr Foot indicated that he will wait in the hope that his colleague will be able to join the Shadow Cabinet next Wednesday to discuss its collective responsibility.

Just how Mr Foot will deal with the situation if Mr Benn continues to argue that he should not be bound by the collective decisions of the elected Parliamentary Committee, the formal name of the Shadow Cabinet, was still not clear.

But he did not seem to support the idea put forward by Mr John Silkin, the shadow Leader of the Commons, that if Mr Benn in future defies a decision of the Shadow Cabinet—as he did on May 20 when he led a revolt by about 70 Labour rebels over defence policy—he should be "deemed" to have resigned from the cabinet.

Mr Foot takes the more orthodox view that Mr Benn should follow the example of the late Mr Aneurin Bevan, when in 1954 he disagreed with the collective leadership and resigned as a matter of course.

Though Mr Foot did not publicly express any concern about Mr Benn's health, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, when asked in the Commons by a Tory backbencher whether she had sent a "get well" message, said: "We would all wish to send a message to any Member of the House who is not well. I do so to the nth degree."

Meanwhile it became clear that two former party leaders, Mr James Callaghan and Sir Harold Wilson, are now active in the campaign to stop Mr Benn from winning the contest with Mr Denis Healey and Mr Silkin for the deputy leadership of the party.

Mr Callaghan has not previously entered the fray, though in the past he has condemned the activities of left-wing extremists who have sought to capture the control of constituency parties.

He said yesterday that he thought Mr Foot had been right to make his dramatic challenge to Mr Benn at Wednesday's meeting of the Shadow Cabinet "because the party is in a right old mess" and it seemed to have got worse since he resigned the leadership.

Unfortunately, Mr Benn had not chosen to take up the challenge, presumably because he thought he would be beaten.

Mr Callaghan said that although every Labour Government must be guided very seriously by conference decisions, "it cannot make them its God, and if it tries to do so it will bring them, and the party they lead, to disaster".

Mr Callaghan, interviewed in the BBC *World at One* programme, said: "What we have to remember is that he (Mr Benn) is a brilliant phenomenon of the present age, just as Mrs Thatcher is. He is, in fact, the Mrs Thatcher of the Labour Party. They both advocate simple remedies."

With Mrs Thatcher the remedy was that if a government cut taxes and controlled the money supply, all would be well if the policy was pressed on ruthlessly. With Mr Benn it was a case of "accept conference decisions and all will be well, and it is only the cowardice and treachery of those who led the party earlier who have prevented us putting things right".

He thought that Mr Benn's activities could cause Labour to lose the next general election. Many people feared him.

But would Mr Callaghan work to prevent Mr Benn winning the deputy leadership contest? "I am going to do the best to see that he does not," he replied.

Mr Callaghan said that in the last two or three years Mr Benn had felt that he should become leader of the party "to save us from the cowardice and treachery of people like myself".

He added: "He wants to be leader. He is perfectly entitled to try. He wants to do it on his own terms and my view is that he is not going to succeed. I believe the party will reject him, at the end of the day."

Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is a supporter of Mr Healey for the deputy leadership, said that when Mr Foot challenged Mr Benn there was a feeling of relief.

"It was as though a boil which had been gathering and swelling inside the party had been lanced," he said. "In effect, the issues which have been half-concealed in this protracted contest have been revealed and made plain."

Mr Shore said that the real implication of what Mr Benn had been saying that these people, his colleagues in the Shadow Cabinet, are not to be trusted and, frankly, if that is his view it is something he ought to put to the test and fight Michael Foot for the leadership as Michael has suggested."

Mr Silkin said yesterday that he regretted Mr Benn had "ducked" Mr Foot's leadership challenge.

"Political courage pays off in the end," Mr Silkin said on LBC independent radio.

Mr Ian Mikardo, MP for Bethnal Green and Bow, a former close associate of Mr Foot, last night wrote to the party leader criticizing his action in the Shadow Cabinet.

Gruelling schedule, page 2
David Watt column, page 14



Church leaders make joint appeal in Ulster

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Runcie, praying for peace yesterday with the Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland, Cardinal Tomas O Fiaich, in Armagh. The Primate of the Church of Ireland, the Most Rev John Armstrong, was also present and the three made a joint appeal for Irish people to reject the gunmen.

It was the first time the three men had met and they discussed the troubles for more than an hour inside Cardinal O Fiaich's palace, close to Armagh's magnificent Roman Catholic cathedral (Tim Jones writes from Belfast).

Reading from an agreed statement, Dr Runcie said that they had discussed ways in which religious leaders could deepen their cooperation in joint condemnation of violence, "and in making appeals to both communities to use the constitutional means that exist to defeat those who pursue the futile way of violence".

The statement added: "We believe that violence postpones and does not help in the building of a society that is more just and harmonious. We are determined to work together energetically to this end."

Dr Runcie said that they had also discussed some of the differences between the churches and examined the efforts that had been made to build bridges between them in the past. "In particular we had a frank conversation about the question of mixed marriages and we look forward to future dialogue on this subject", he said.

After exchanging gifts with Cardinal O Fiaich, Dr Runcie left for Dublin to deliver a sermon at St Patrick's Cathedral. Today he will meet Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, and President Hillery.

Big arms find, page 2

Ominous Soviet attack on Poles

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, June 4

In an ominous new development Russia today accused Polish trade union leaders of outright anti-Sovietism, and quoted one Solidarity official saying that a million members of the Polish Community Party ought to be hanged.

The charges were made in reports by Tass, which is distributed to all Soviet newspapers and broadcasting stations. They are clearly intended to show the Russian people that not only is Solidarity, the independent trade union movement, bent on the destruction of communism, but the party has lost control of the situation and allowed Poles to express open hostility to the Russians.

The serious charge of anti-Sovietism is calculated to raise national and ideological hackles among the Russians, and is one that was made against reformers in Czechoslovakia before the Warsaw Pact invasion in 1968.

A Tass report from Warsaw quoted Mr Bogdan Krakowski described as a Solidarity leader, threatening violence against Polish Communists unless the red flag was taken down from council buildings, and names of streets and buildings honouring the Soviet Union were changed.

It said he had called in a speech in the southern town of Zawiercie for Red Army Street and a school named after the Soviet poet Mayakovsky to be renamed after Poles, and threatened that if this was not done the union would dissolve the town council.

Tass described Mr Krakowski as a "monster", who had, according to "informed Polish sources" called for the hanging of a million members of the Polish party.

The dispatch was read out on Moscow radio's English service, but the final threat was omitted. The item was later dropped altogether. Tass, which normally translates all its main reports into English for its overseas subscribers, did not publish this report on its foreign service at all—a clear indication that it was designed to prepare Russians for a bitter campaign against the Poles.

However, Soviet newspapers this morning instead substituted other items less dramatic about Poland. *Pravda* quoted the chairman of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society as saying that only those who were politically blind could fail to notice the "dirty flood" of anti-Sovietism in Poland.

Tass today also gave prominence to a report in a Bulgarian newspaper which strongly criticized the Polish party for "retreating from Marxist-Leninist positions and the laws of class struggle".

The paper, *Rabotnichesko Delo*, also said that anti-Sovietism, which it called a dangerous phenomenon, was spreading in Poland and should not be underestimated.

☐ Mr Bogdan Krakowski, the Solidarity branch leader in Zawiercie, said that he had never advocated violence against Communists, as alleged by Tass (Reuter reports from Warsaw).

Mr Krakowski said: "There was no threat, as the Soviet media alleged, of violence."

Solidarity leaders tonight voted in favour of a two-hour warning strike in four northern provinces, despite an appeal by the Roman Catholic Church.

Officials said Solidarity's National Commission, meeting without Mr Lech Walesa, its leader who is in Geneva, voted by 22 to 13 with two abstentions to hold the strike in Bydgoszcz, Wloclawek, Plock and Torun next Thursday.

The strike was called to protest against delays by the authorities in naming and punishing officials responsible for ordering police to evict Solidarity members from the Bydgoszcz provincial assembly hall on March 19.

It will be the first major industrial protest in Poland since Mr Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, instructed Parliament on April 10 to outlaw strikes for two months.

Bishop Jan Michalski of Gniezno had earlier called on the union not to strike, arguing that those present held the fate of the nation in their hands.

Church plea, page 7

Industrialist to be SDP chief

By Ian Bradley

Mr Bernard Doyle, chairman of Booker McConnell Engineering, has been appointed chief executive of the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

He was one of 320 applicants for the post, which has an annual salary of £25,000, and was chosen from a short list of five. He takes up the job on September 1.

Mr Doyle, aged 40, was born and brought up in Manchester. He graduated in civil engineering from Manchester University and worked for four years with British Rail. He then financed himself through a course at Harvard Business School before working as a management consultant in London, Brussels and the United States.

He joined Booker McConnell in 1973 and became a member of the main board in 1979. The engineering division over which he presides is the biggest section of the company in terms of assets.

Mr Doyle said last night that he had applied for the job because he felt the formation of the SDP offered a chance of busting the political system. "That is the sort of chance that comes only every 50 years. I hesitated before applying but felt that I would never forgive myself if I did not."

Until he joined the SDP recently he had never belonged to a political party. He said he had a strong academic interest in politics, and that his sympathies had been broadly with the Liberals.

Although he sees his prime role as organizational, he hopes to have some input on policy issues as well.

His background, colleagues were saying, made him well able to move from the security of a large company to what one of them described as an uncertain and risky venture.



Mr Bernard Doyle: "Highly professional manager."

It is clear that he has been primarily chosen for his managerial skills rather than because of any particular political commitment. One colleague said yesterday he was not interested in politics in the party sense. "He is a quiet, highly professional manager."

Although the SDP has not disclosed the identities of the other short-listed candidates, it is understood that one was Mr John Harris, a leader writer on the *Financial Times*. He said yesterday: "The job was advertised and I never applied. I had one or two informal discussions."

The SDP has begun the process of filling three further full-time appointments for directors of organization, communications and policy.

Continued on back page, col 4

Government rejects intervention as sterling continues to fall

By John Whitmore and Peter Hill

As sterling slid 7.65 cents to $1.9410 in London yesterday, the Government said it had no plans to intervene. Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary at the Treasury, told the Commons: "Whether the rate is rising or falling, the Governor of the Bank of England's policy is to allow the rate to be determined primarily by market forces."

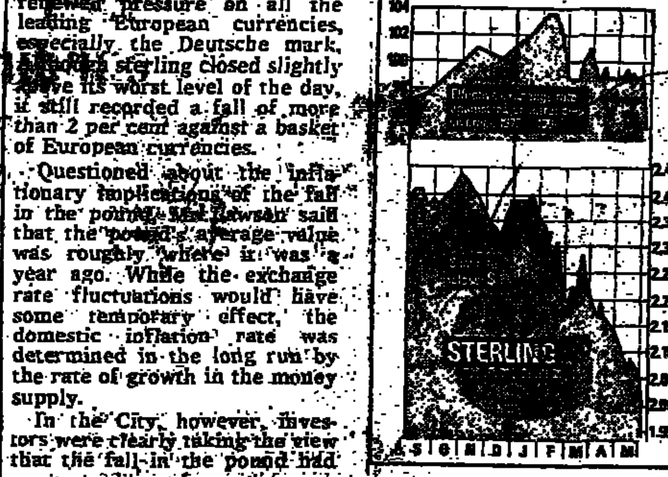
This reaffirmation of the Government's non-intervention policy in foreign exchange markets came when a fresh upsurge in the dollar was putting renewed pressure on all the leading European currencies, especially the Deutsche mark.

Although sterling closed slightly above its worst level of the day, it still recorded a fall of more than 2 per cent against a basket of European currencies.

Questioned about the inflationary implications of the fall in the pound, Mr Lawson said that the pound's average value was roughly where it was a year ago. While the exchange rate fluctuations would have some temporary effect, the domestic inflation rate was determined in the long run by the rate of growth in the money supply.

In the City, however, investors were clearly taking the view that the fall in the pound had unwelcome implications for both inflation and interest rates. Money market rates firmed up and falls of up to £2½ in gilt-edged securities pushed the yields on long-term government debt above 15 per cent.

British industry, which has been complaining bitterly about the impact of a high exchange rate on exports, cautiously welcomed the fall. On the Stock Market share prices soared, pushing the FT Index up by 8.9 points to 555.6.



Sterling's fall against the dollar has led to further speculation that the British National Oil Corporation will be forced to cut its official price for North Sea oil within the next few days, possibly by $2 a barrel. British Petroleum, in which the Government is the major shareholder, added its voice to the growing clamour for a cut in North Sea prices.

BP said last night that it had cut output from its Forties Field because it could not find enough buyers.

Unveiling a first quarter £110m fall in profits, directors of the company said that North Sea oil was plainly overpriced.

But any cut in crude oil prices by the State-owned BNOC is unlikely to lead to substantial cuts in petrol prices because reductions in crude prices are compensated for by sterling's fall.

Holidaymakers will be cushioned against the effect of the pound's drop, said the Association of British Travel Agents. It emphasized that there would be no extras for those people who have already paid for their holidays, and prices could not be changed within 30 days of departure.

Leading article, page 15
Little joy for industry, page 17

Passenger sees jet's wing crack

A passenger on board a British Airways airliner alerted the captain after he saw a crack appear in the starboard wing of the aircraft as it flew over the Atlantic early yesterday.

The captain sent an emergency call to London and talked to the airline's safety experts and engineers, but they decided that the fault in the honeycomb structure behind the main spar was not structural and with 410 passengers the aircraft continued on to London from Barbados.

It landed safely at Heathrow airport and the airline said yesterday that it was carrying out an examination of all its Boeing 747s.

There was definitely no danger as the crack was not in a load-bearing area. But we will be examining all of our 747s as a matter of course. The crack was only small, but we won't have further details until our engineers have had time to examine it," the airline said.

Alsatians kill baby in garden

By Stewart Tendler

A baby boy died yesterday after being attacked by seven alsatian dogs in the garden of a house in Harlesden, north-west London.

Michek Cecil Francis, aged 12 months, was staying at his grandparents' home in Fortune Gate Road, Harlesden, while his mother, Caroline Francis, went to look for a job. There were five adults and three other children in the house when the baby got out unnoticed into the garden where the dogs were.

After the police arrived at the house, the dogs were sedated, and taken to an RSPCA centre.

The dogs were owned by Michek's uncle, Mr Errol Francis, and were being trained for his firm, Hollis Security. Michek's grandfather, Mr Cecil Francis, said: "Errol had gone out. When I discovered what had happened it was too late."

Attorney General defends Ripper plea decisions

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, gave MPs his three reasons for agreeing that it would be right to accept a plea of guilty to manslaughter in the trial of Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper: one was to spare the families of victims detailed knowledge of the horrifying injuries Page 6

Dacca pledge

The acting President of Bangladesh said the Government would uphold democracy and foil any plot to abolish it, and would discover the truth about the killing of President Zia Page 8

Prison proposals

An urban open prison with a reduced emphasis on security and control and more freedom for prisoners is proposed in an unpublished report by a Home Office working party Page 2

Children beaten

For the second day schoolchildren were beaten by city police in Johannesburg's Coloured (mixed race) areas. The police moved into one school with dogs, whips and tear gas Page 8

Airliner projects

Three new European airliner projects were announced at the thirty-fourth Paris air show. The role of British Aerospace in the projects appears to be limited Page 9

Extra tax relief

The Government has bowed to pressure from businessmen and is offering extra tax relief to assist new companies in their early years Page 17

Hospital inquiry

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, has called for an investigation into allegations in a television film about conditions at two mental hospitals Page 2

Shot PC verdict shocks police

Two armed raiders were cleared yesterday of attempting to murder Police Constable Philip Olds who was shot and paralysed from the waist down when he tried to stop them escaping.

The two, Mark Blackstock, aged 28, and Leslie Cooke, aged 21, both Hell's Angels, were convicted at the Central Criminal Court of wounding him. They will be sentenced today.

PC Olds said later that his colleagues were "shattered" and "very, very disappointed" by the jury's decision. "It is a dreadful day for the police," he said.

Both Mr Blackstock and Mr Cooke said they did not intend to shoot anyone during the unsuccessful raid on an off licence in Hayes, West London two days before Christmas. They said they had taken the pistol as a "frightener" to stop people becoming too brave.

Mr James Rant, QC, for the defence of Mr Cooke, said after the verdicts: "If blanks had been used, PC Olds would never have been wounded. That is the tragedy of it all."

Mr David Tudor Price, the prosecuting counsel, said that as PC Olds lay helpless on the ground, believing he was dying after being shot by Blackstock, Mr Cooke kicked him "a terrible blow from a heavy boot", spinning his head round.

The next day, Mr Tudor Price said, Mr Cooke asked friends for an alibi, and "laughed and boasted" about the shooting. But Mr Rant asked the judge "not to find as a fact that Cooke had been proud of what had happened".

PC Olds had faced Mr Blackstock, armed with a 22 Luger pistol, with only his truncheon in his hand, the court was told. He had said: "If you shoot that bloody thing there will be 23,000 coppers who are going to do you."

Both men, members of the Hell's Angels "Nomad Chapter", said they had bought blanks to use in the pistol, but as these did not work properly they decided to load the gun with live ammunition.

Both the accused were acquitted of attempted murder. Mr Blackstock, of no fixed address, was found guilty of wounding PC Olds with intent to resist arrest. Mr Cooke, of Elm Tree Avenue, Northolt, Middlesex, was cleared of wounding with intent to resist arrest, but convicted of unlawful wounding. They had denied the charges against them.

Mr Jim Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, said the verdict would "seriously concern policemen". "It certainly will not put policemen off doing their duty, but it is the courts duty to protect them."

Give Habib time, Sadat asks

From Christopher Walker, Ofira, June 4

President Sadat of Egypt tonight urged Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, to allow the United States time to resolve the crisis in Lebanon and not to impose any time limit.

President Sadat made his request as Mr Philip Habib, the American special envoy to the Middle East, was preparing to return to the region for the second round of his diplomatic effort to reduce tension between Israel and Syria.

The discussion on Lebanon dominated the fourth summit between President Sadat and Mr Begin, for 18 months, held on the south-west tip of the Sinai Peninsula.

The Israeli leader, looking fit and confident, referred to President Sadat as "my friend" and said that he had asked the Egyptian Prime Minister to give Mr Habib ample time, without deadline.

In previous statements, President Sadat has hinted that as an Arab country Egypt has sympathy for Syria. At a press conference after the summit, however, it was the Egyptian leader, not Mr Begin, who issued the strongest condemnation of President Assad.

He accused the Syrian leader of orchestrating the Lebanese crisis by invading the country in 1975 in a deliberate attempt to create a greater Syria.

President Sadat also said that the Syrian design had failed. "Now the motive is to divert attention from the civil war inside Syria and to prolong his (President Assad's) stay as President." He said Syria should withdraw from Lebanon.

Although both leaders decided to keep some of their agreements secret, the impression was that President Sadat had once again made clear Egypt's refusal to become militarily involved in any war between Israel and Syria.

"The decision of war and peace in the area on the Arab side is in the hands of Egypt, and on the Israeli side in the hands of Israel," he said, pointing out that the last war Mr Begin had pledged that the 1973 war would be the last.

President Sadat said he had pressed Mr Begin to abandon Israel's controversial policy of launching preemptive strikes against Palestinian targets inside Lebanon.

Mr Begin made it plain later that this request had been refused.

The presence of militant Jewish settlers protesting noisily at the Israeli pullout from the remainder of Sinai in 1982 appeared to do little to mar the harmony of the 90-minute private meeting.

Photograph, and Washington page 8

Benn in hospital after gruelling daily schedule

By Richard Ford

Mr Wedgwood Benn was under the care of a consultant neirologist last night after being admitted to hospital for tests on a suspected viral infection.

Mr Benn, who is 56, had made an appointment at the out-patients clinic of Charing Cross Hospital, in Hammersmith, west London, several days ago when he complained of pains in his legs. His admission came hours after he refused to accept Mr Michael Foot's challenge to fight him for the leadership of the Labour Party.

The tests are expected to be completed within 24 hours. The hospital said: "Depending on the tests, he might have to stay in hospital over the weekend."

Mr Benn, who is in a National Health Service bed in a single room, was visited by his wife Caroline, and son Hilary, yesterday. His son said Mr Benn had been surprised when doctors decided to detain him for tests.

"He is well and cheerful. He is sitting up in bed doing a little light work and resting. I have brought him more than 250 letters which he needs to sign. I do not know what is wrong with him. He said that he had not been feeling well for several days."

He added that his father hoped to resume work as soon as possible. All Mr Benn's engagements have been cancelled for the time being.

He is not being allowed any visitors apart from his family.

Mr Benn himself spoke from his hospital ward simply to say: "I have nothing to add to the statement made by my son on my behalf."

Neither his son, nor Mrs Primarolo would speculate on whether the illness could have been caused by the pressure of work.

In recent years Mr Benn, even while a Cabinet Minister, has been an indefatigable and tireless traveller throughout Britain, addressing hundreds of meetings of local Labour parties. He has also been a frequent traveller abroad.

Since the beginning of the trades union conference season in April, Mr Benn has had a gruelling schedule addressing meetings in his campaign for the deputy leadership.

On May 16 he addressed a meeting at the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs at Blackpool. The next day he was at Brighton addressing a meeting at the Union of Communication Workers conference. Three days later he spoke at a fringe meeting at the Fire Brigade's union conference at Bridlington, Humberside, rushing away to be back at the House of Commons that night in time to defy a shadow Cabinet recommendation to abstain in the defence debate.

On May 21 he was at Bournemouth to address a meeting at the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (TASS) section, conference before flying to the United States to speak at a conference.

He flew back to attend a meeting of the National Executive Committee on May 27. Two days later he was in his Bristol South East constituency doing a surgery and other casework.

Mr Benn was due at the Nottingham Area National Union of Miners annaul picnic at Mansfield tomorrow.

TGWU rejects Foot view on deputy's contest

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Michael Foot's political position was undermined yesterday by rank-and-file leaders of the country's largest union who rejected his view that Mr Wedgwood Benn should not stand for the Labour Party deputy leadership.

In an unpublicized decision the general executive council of the Transport and General Workers' Union voted 4—1 to throw out a motion endorsing the view taken two months ago by the union's national officials that Mr Benn should withdraw from the leadership race.

The vote shows a bigger than expected split in the ranks of the leadership of the transport workers, whose dominating 1.25 million block vote could swing the outcome of the party controversy.

In particular, it suggests that even if the union's conference in Brighton later this month does not take a view about which candidate to support in the forthcoming election, the Benn camp may yet pick up the critical votes of the largest *affiliated union*.

The final attitude of the union will not be known until shortly before the election for the leader and deputy leader takes place in open conference at Brighton.



Conference decisions are contradictory

God who plays dice with Labour's universe

By Philip Webster, Political Staff

Conference decisions are not God, Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, said yesterday when supporting Mr Michael Foot's challenge to Mr Wedgwood Benn to fight him for the leadership of the Labour Party.

That may be Mr Callaghan's opinion, but there is no question that the emphasis placed on the deliberations of conference by Mr Benn and his supporters has amounted almost to deification of the institution.

Even yesterday Mr Michael Meacher, MP for Oldham, West, and one of Mr Benn's right-hand men in the Commons, was maintaining in a radio interview that the argument was not with Mr Foot but with the way the parliamentary leadership was implementing party policy.

The real argument, he implied, was with Mr Denis Healey, who was opposed to party policy on the issues of nuclear disarmament, withdrawal from the European Community and the economic alternative to Thatcherite monetarism.

However, in his challenge to Mr Benn, Mr Foot cited all three issues as examples of the way in which conference decisions could not be translated into policy by the Shadow Cabinet.

An examination of the resolutions carried by last year's conference on those subjects gives much force to Mr Foot's argument. What, for instance, is the Shadow Cabinet to do about the following two motions, adopted at the end of a debate on economic policy?

One, put forward by Liverpool, Wavertree constituency Labour Party, declared that incomes policy had been a factor in past Labour general election defeats. It rejected incomes policy as a method of combating unemployment. The motion was well carried.

A few minutes later a motion put forward by the Union of Communication Workers came up for voting. That rejected the concept of "an incomes and prices free-for-all inherent in the nature of free collective bargaining and free price-fixing". That, too, was passed, by a smaller majority.

The formation of a counter-inflation strategy and the development of a relationship with the trade unions to help achieve it is recognized as the most important task facing the Labour Party as it moves towards the next election. Those two contradictory conference motions settled nothing.

The fog was even thicker on defence policy. As an old CNDer, as Mr Foot described himself on Wednesday, he is anxious for the party to achieve a disarmament policy before the next election which commands as wide agreement as possible.

As he acknowledged, the last conference passed important resolutions on the issue, although not all of them were necessarily compatible with one another. He can say that again.

The conference in quick succession passed one resolution calling on the next Labour government to reduce defence spending and proposing multilateral disarmament; another proposing a commitment in the *Labour manifesto to unilateral* disarmament; and a third opposing British participation in any defence policy based on the use or threatened use of nuclear weapons and calling for all nuclear bases on British soil to be closed.

Soon afterwards it rejected a recommendation to the party "to renounce Nato or any other grouping based on nuclear deterrence". It was quickly observed that the unilateralist motions were hardly compatible with membership of Nato.

Accordingly, the National Executive Committee and the Shadow Cabinet are engaged in attempts to draw up an agreed policy. In a move to find an approach which commanded the unanimous support of the parliamentary party, the shadow Cabinet put down its amendment to the Government's dedence White Paper a few weeks ago.

But, as Mr Foot bitterly remarked to the Shadow Cabinet, Mr Benn's tactics at the end of that debate destroyed any possibility of achieving the dual aim of keeping the party united without abandoning or weakening policy.

Similarly, last year's conference cannot be said to have settled the question of how a Labour government would disengage Britain from the EEC. Although it urged withdrawal, the means of doing so were left open and in voting against a fresh referendum, it took a line different from that adopted by the TUC.

On Northern Ireland, another issue on which Mr Foot said *Mr Benn was questioning his* allegiance to party policy. Mr Benn has been ahead of conference policy.

Last year it rejected a motion calling for British withdrawal. It endorsed the executive's proposal to set up a study group to examine Labour's Irish policy.

Mr Benn, however, did not wait for the study group's conclusion's before declaring himself in favour of the withdrawal of British troops.

Appeal for cash aid to 'deselect' MPs

Mr Arthur Palmer, Labour MP for Bristol, North-East, said yesterday that the party should give financial help to MPs who lost their seats through the new reselection procedure.

He raised what he described as "this moral dilemma" at a meeting of the Parliamentary party, saying that MPs like Mr John Sever, MP for Birmingham, Ladywood, who were "deselected", should be helped, possibly through the party's benevolent fund.

A present MPs receive a severance payment of between *6 and 12 months' salary*, if they lose their seat in an election. Labour's parliamentary affairs group is considering whether to recommend that the severance payment be made at the end of service irrespective of reason.

Big arms haul in Belfast flats

From Tim Jones, Belfast

Security forces in Belfast yesterday discovered guns, bombs and big supplies of acid after they had torn down barricades surrounding a huge Catholic housing complex five minutes walk from the city centre.

The police said the search at Divis Flats had been mounted because the complex was the scene of considerable violence in recent weeks. As soon as the raid began women rushed on to the street to warn their neighbours by banging dustbin lids.

In the scuffles that followed nine people were arrested, one of them in connexion with a firearms offence. More than 300 troops and police are estimated to have taken part in the search of the flats which are a stronghold of the Irish National Liberation Army.

The immediate vicinity of the flats is one of the most dangerous areas in the whole of the province for the police and Army to patrol. They have been shot at on several occasions and on Wednesday afternoon they came under heavy attack from a mob armed with petrol bombs.

The Army and police moved in at 7.30am, led by heavy bulldozers which smashed their way through the remains of 55 cars which were blocking access to *the flats. Some of the corridors* inside the flats were also barricaded.

After a five-hour search the Army had discovered a terrifying arsenal of weapons for use in the street battles.

The haul included a rifle with telescopic sights, a revolver and ammunition. They also discovered face masks, petrol bombs, acid bombs and 20 gallons of hydrochloric acid.

Demand for radical change expected

☐ The Labour Party study group on Northern Ireland, which is nearing the end of its deliberations, seems certain to make radical proposals for political change in the province (Christopher Thomas writes).

Mr Dennis Concannon, opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland and a member of the group, said at the end of a three-day tour yesterday that there might be "a bit of shoving and nudging" of the big parties in Ulster.

"Our people are becoming unemployed, our schools and hospitals are closing, and the general population is seeing standards going down. They are looking at where the taxpayers' money is going and they are *certainly looking at the £1,000m that comes over here", he said.*

The study group's findings are likely to form the basis of a report to the next party conference. Mr Concannon refused to predict the contents but said "There is a feeling that some resolution to this problem ought to be started very soon".

He added that there was an increasing demand by the rest of the people in the United Kingdom for political progress.

Mr Concannon was severely *critical of Mr Wedgwood Benn's* statements on Northern Ireland. It was positively dangerous when people who did not know the problem made outlandish statements.

Republic election debate called off

☐ The proposed debate between the leaders of the two main parties in the Irish Republic's general election, Mr Charles Haughey, of Fianna Fail and Dr Garret FitzGerald, of Fine Gael, has been called off by the national radio and television network, RTE, because of what the station terms "irreconcilable differences between the parties" (Our Dublin Correspondent writes).

☐ A part-time soldier is resigning his commission to fight the parliamentary seat in Fermanagh and South Tyrone left vacant by Robert Sands. Mr Kenneth Maginnis, a teacher and a major in the Ulster Defence Regiment, will contest the seat for the Official Unionist Party (the Press Association reports).

Jenkin acts over film on mental hospitals

By Lucy Hodges

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, yesterday asked two area health authorities to investigate *allegations* made in an ATV documentary about shocking conditions in two hospitals for the mentally handicapped.

This announcement was made amid speculation that the programme, to be shown next Wednesday at 9pm, might be changed or banned by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The authority met all day yesterday and discussed the film, *Silent Minority*, but made no decision. Members of the authority are due to see the programme today. Representatives of the two area health *bodies concerned declined to* comment, but one, Berkshire, said it would decide today what to do after discussions with staff.

Sir George Young, Under-Secretary of State for Health, referred to the programme at the conference of the Institute of Health Service Administrators yesterday. He said the Department of Health and Social Security would have to see the film before considering whether to initiate an inquiry.

"The Government shares a deep concern that is widely felt about the sad and twilight lives some seriously handicapped people endure", he said. The National Health Service had to give priority to the Cinderella services.

Mr Brian Rix, secretary-general of the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults, said any attempt to ban the documentary would be fought tooth-and-nail.

"The British people will not tolerate a cover-up of the prison camp conditions in some of our long-stay hospitals for the mentally handicapped", he *said. "A ban would be a squalid* response to a film which was made with the full knowledge of the hospital authorities and was not a long-lensed scoop."

The way in which the film was made is one difficulty facing the broadcasting authority. A freelance producer, Mr Nigel Evans, went into St Lawrence's Hospital in Caterham, Surrey, and Borocourt Hospital, near Reading, last year to make a fund-raising film for a charity of which he is chairman.

The shots of ward conditions, of a boy being tied to a post and adults in caged compounds were all taken in the process of making the film for the charity One to One. Staff were aware of *the filming, although they had not known about all the scenes* shot. Mr Richard Creasey, controller of features at ATV, refused to say when the hospital authorities became aware that a film was being made for ATV.

Members of the Berkshire and Croydon area health authorities were yesterday seeing the film. Croydon said it would not be seeking an injunction to prevent its screening.

Mr Michael Goody, administrator of St Lawrence's Hospital, said it was one of the most open and forward-looking hospitals for the mentally handicapped in the country. But he said that only £10.65 a day was spent on each patient, less than in any other comparable hospital.

The hospital, which has 1,350 patients, is badly understaifed.

THATCHER CAR PELTED

Eggs and tomatoes were thrown at Mrs Margaret Thatcher's car during a jobs protest in the West Country last night. The Prime Minister was given a noisy reception by more than a hundred protesters when she arrived to meet local Conservatives in Warminster, Wiltshire.

A youth was arrested after a tomato hit her car outside the town's assembly hall. The demonstrators included local Labour groups, CND protesters, striking civil servants and jobless teenagers.

Commons sketch

The price of beer takes a pounding again

From Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

The casual observer of the political scene might have expected Labour MPs to arrive at the House of Commons yesterday in a mood of exultancy and with their cups of joy brimming over. Had not their leader courageously abandoned the policy of turning the other cheek and entered the lists against the fire-breathing dragon from Bristol, South East?

Even better news, surely, was the way in which the pound was tumbling, something that Mr Peter Shore, the Opposition's chief spokesman on economic matters, had been pressing on the Chancellor of the Exchequer for many months past.

Admittedly, the tumbling pound had little to do with Sir Geoffrey Howe, but even so one might have expected a squeak of appreciation from those MPs of a more generous nature. Indeed, the massive cheer that greeted Mr Michael Foot as he rose to put his first question to the Prime Minister came from the Tory benches.

As for the pound, and considering that its high exchange rate in Labour eyes has been behind almost every misery of the past few years from the high price of beer to the low standard of living, it seemed a little odd that it took so long for anyone to raise the matter. The only mention came towards the end of questions to the Chancellor when Mr Shore produced a convoluted argument about the respective virtues of intervention by the Bank of England or of leaving well alone to allow market forces to produce the correct rate.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary, remarked that Mr Shore's question was the most curious he had ever heard. For the first half he seemed to be arguing that the exchange rate should be held up while in the second half he appeared to want it to go down.

Mr Foot, meanwhile, decided to move on to safer ground. Would the Prime Minister assist by clearing up some apparent confusion, asked the Labour leader.

But it soon turned out that the confusion in Mr Foot's mind was over the budgetary contribution to the EEC and disclosures in *The Times* that there was disagreement between the Treasury and the Foreign Office.

Mrs Thatcher had little difficulty in dealing with that one. As the First Lord of the Treasury and as the main negotiator with Europe, she considered herself to be both departments and she was certainly not disagreeing with herself.

But as often happens in the House, the liveliest exchanges came over beer. According to Mr Robert Parry, Labour MP for Liverpool, Scotland Exchange, beer was being placed beyond the reach of the British working man. That was easily disproved, said Mr Lawson. All Mr Parry had to do was to walk into any pub in Britain and he would find it absolutely choc-a-block with workers. Just like the Palace of Westminster.

Parliamentary report, page 6

CLOSED SHOP REBEL FAILS

Miss Joanna Harris, aged 21, the closed shop rebel, failed yesterday to get back her job as a poutry inspector despite a vote by Nalgo members of Sandwell council to scrap the closed shop. Three other unions need to be consulted, the council decided.

MAN HELD AFTER CHILD'S DEATH

A four-year-old girl died and a boy, aged two, was in a criti cal condition yesterday. Police found them injured in a parked car in the village of Moelfre, near Abergele, Clwyd.

They were Anne Marie and Andrew Madonna of Colwyn Bay. Police said a man had been arrested and was being questioned.

Cabinet firm on 7% offer to Civil Service unions

By Our Political Staff

In the face of threats from some Civil Service leaders for the calling of an all-out, indefinite stoppage in Government services, the Cabinet yesterday decided to stand firm by the "final" 7 per cent offer.

Last night ministers refused to give any indication of the line which Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council, who is responsible for the Civil Service, will take in the talks with union leaders in London today.

At first that was interpreted as an indication that the Government wa slikely to make an improved offer. But that interpretation was discounted later.

Lord Soames will put more emhasis todpay on the offer which the Government has made to negotiate a new system for assessing the level of Civil Service pay in future in relation to pay in the private sector. But it seems that he will not budge from the 7 per cent offer for this year.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State for the Civil Service told the Commons on Wednesday that the 6 per cent cash limit on Civil Service pay would not be breached, and the Cabinet agreed yesterday that the basis of the present offer should not be changed.

Felled trees are still 'preserved'

By a Staff Reporter

A farmer who felled an ancient woodland before a tree preservation order could be served on him lost [illegible] to get the order [illegible] yesterday.

Mid Suffolk district council's planning committee [illegible] to confirm the order it had decided on in February. The decision was made on a Friday but Mr William Battell, the farmer, heard of it and cut down the trees over the weekend before it could be delivered.

The acre and a half of woodland bordered a local beauty spot called Cow Pasture Lane, Mellis, near Eye, a medieval green lane with 13 species of tree, some of them oaks up to 500 years old. Local conservationists collected 300 signatures on a petition that the order should remain on the roots and stumps which are already sending up new shoots. Mr Battell wanted to grub them up and convert the land to arable.

Mr Roger Deakin, a leader of the campaign, described it as a "sad story with a happy ending." The decision showed that in rural areas less faith was being placed in voluntary co-operation with farmers, he said.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 25; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 36; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 460 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.00; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 5.50; France Frs 6.00; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 60; Holland Gl 2.75; Iran IR 1.35; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 50p; Italy L 1400; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon Ll 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 6.00; Norway 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 60; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4 S; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS3.50; Tunisia Dm 0.600; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

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Open prisons with more freedom proposed

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

New-style urban prisons are proposed in an unpublished report by an internal Home Office working party. They would be the most open prisons yet.

Prisoners would be given more freedom to go to college and Church, take up sport and recreations and work outside in the town, so becoming more part of the local community, although a workshop would be needed inside as a back-up because of job shortages.

The working party of senior prison department officials envisages a small prototype holding between 50 and 75 prisoners.

"We envisage that up to 10 such prisons could exist eventually, but that would not be before the turn of the century," the party says.

The proposal is part of the most radical review of open prisons in Britain since they began experimentally in the 1930s. The report says existing open prisons are in rural areas whereas most of their inmates come from urban areas.

That means there are limitations on the sort of jobs and leisure pursuits available and the prisons are inaccessible for visits.

But the ideas the working party has for greater openness would also apply to existing open prisons. There should be a reduced emphasis on security and control, with greater freedom for prisoners to move out and in.

The report implies a revolution in thought with the employment of prisoners outside and employers encouraged to think of them as individuals rather than as a distinctive group. They should not be under escort, the report says. Any prison staff present should be regarded as the prison's representative on the site instead of as supervisor.

Where an inmate from an open prison needs to attend an outside medical appointment and is medically fit to go on his own, he should be allowed to do so, unescorted.

A changed emphasis on participation in outside sports would allow prisoners to join clubs as individuals in suitable cases, which would give more contact than is possible for teams.

Prisoners should be free, the report says, to use the church of their choice and to take part in whatever activities the church community is offering. They should be free to attend in civilian clothes and to mix with the congregation.

There should be no escorts when prisoners go to outside colleges or libraries. If a rural library service is limited and there are poor facilities for physical education, the prison gymnasium and library could be opened to the local community. Weekend schools at the prison, with inmates and local residents joining in, could be arranged.

Although the Prison Officers' Association is adamant there should be no further concessions on mail censorship, the working party would like to see less of it. The report advocates that all inmates of open prisons should be given access to a pay telephone.

At Kirkham open prison in Lancashire prisoners were allowed to use telephones as an experiment, but opposition to the scheme by prison officers effectively stopped it at the end of last year.
per cent more it said.

SCOTS ISLANDS IN VAT PLEA

The Highlands and Islands Development Board has asked the Government to exempt the Scottish islands from value-added tax on petrol and diesel. Food prices in the islands were up to 20 per cent higher than in urban areas and other consumer goods cost up to 30

Dissent likely in 'Observer' report

By Dan van der Vat

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is expected to present its report on Lonrho's bid for *The Observer*, Britain's oldest Sunday newspaper, to Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, next week, it was learnt last night.

After the delivery of the commission's report the Government will need at least two weeks to have it printed and decide on its response.

If, as seems likely, the commission is not unanimously in favour of Lonrho, Mr Biffen's decision could be delayed and made conditional upon detailed safeguards for editorial independence; however, a sense of urgency is now apparent in commission circles.

The controversial bid for the newspaper, initiated by Lonrho's chief executive, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, was referred to the newspaper panel of the commission by Mr Biffen at the end of March, with instructions to report by the end of this month.

The eight-man panel, chaired by Sir Godfrey Le Quesne, the Director-General of the commission, is understood to have finished gathering evidence in the first half of this week with a final hearing of representations from sources connected with the newspaper opposed to the Lonrho deal.

Much of the evidence has come from journalists on *The Observer*, testifying collectively and individually. Their main concerns have focused upon between the newspaper's reputation in the Third World, particularly Africa, and Lonrho's business interests there; editorial guarantees; and Lonhro's commitments to the paper's future in the form of large and long-term investment.

Lonrho and Mr Rowland made no secret of their opposition to a referral of the takeover to the commission, stating that the uncertainty caused by the delay would damage the confidence of advertisers and readers and the morals of the staff.

Everything was done to try within the law to make a referral unnecessary. The original deal was a personal one, concluded between Mr Rowland and Mr Robert Anderson, chairman of the American oil company Atlantic Richfield, the present owner of the paper, for a transfer of shares.

Lonrho was to get all the newspaper's shares in exchange for a 40 per cent stake in George Outram, the Glasgow newspaper publishing subsidiary of Lonrho. Later the terms were changed to a 20 per cent slice of Outrams plus £3m in cash.

Then, just as Mr Biffin was insisting on a referral to the commission, Mr Rowland announced that he would personally acquire a 50 per cent holding in the Atlantic Richfield subsidiary controlling *The Observer*. When that too failed to ward off the commission's attentions, Mr Rowland withdrew and Lonrho once again became the bidder.

Lonrho and Mr Rowland have gone out of their way to allay scepticism by offering guarantees on the paper's independence. The main printing unions, convinced that Atlantic Richfield was determined to extricate itself from *The Observer*, have shown a mainly benign attitude to a Lonrho takeover.

NHS under private pressure

By Nicholas Timmins

The private health sector is beginning to increase the difficulties of the National Health Service by attracting the simpler and more straightforward cases, leaving the NHS the more difficult and unpredictable acute work, a senior health service administrator said yesterday.

"This quickly results in marked differences, for instance in pressures on nursing staff," Mr David Kenny, administrator of Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster Area Health Authority, said. His authority has the largest concentration of private hospital beds in Britain.

His area has a shortage of 600 nurses which is partly attributed to competition for nurses from private hospitals in central London.

In his presidential address to the Institute of Health Service Administrators annual conference in Norwich, Mr Kenny said there was evidence in some parts of London that "nursing staff already experience significantly greater pressures of work in the NHS than in the private sector".

It was essential, he said, to have both simpler and more demanding cases on the wards to allow them to operate efficiently.

"There must be limits to what the acute service can reasonably withstand", he said. If pushed too far, it would not only create a two-tier acute system, it would also tie up resources in the acute side of the health service which needed to be released for other work, such as primary care, and care of the old, mentally ill and handicapped.

"A sensible balance can be struck between the two sectors, but equally it may easily be lost."

Mr Kenny, who was speaking in a personal capacity, also expressed strong reservations at the Government's examination of insurance-based health systems.

Holidays on offer to ex RAF staff

By David Nicholson-Lord

A former jet fighter pilot has appealed to disabled ex-colleagues to come forward so that he can launch a scheme to provide them with low-cost holidays abroad.

Mr Gordon Sykes, who was paralysed from the waist down after an aircraft accident 17 years ago, hopes for backing if he produces the names of 100 former RAF and WRAF members who would benefit from rent-free holidays in purpose-built bungalows, probably in Tenerife, Cyprus or Florida. But lack of adequate records means that he is less than half way to his target.

Mr Sykes, a BL executive who received the MBE for his work with the RAF Benevolent Fund, launched the scheme for the International Year of Disabled People. It is aimed at former RAF personnel or dependants with 100 per cent disability.

He estimates that there are 4,000 in that category but since they are not separately listed in government records, he has been able to get in touch with only 39, through word of mouth.

Mr Sykes, of 4, The Motte, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, said yesterday: "It is a chicken and egg situation. I have great hopes of support, from several sources, but I have to prove the need first.

"There must be many people sitting at home thinking they are finished, that they can never do anything again. Once you get them actually to do something, like coping with going away on holiday, they start working for themselves instead of sitting back and waiting for society to do everything for them."

The cost of bungalows designed for people with 100 per cent disability is estimated at £32,000 in Florida and £50,000 in the Canaries. Residents would be provided with nursing and an adapted car and would only pay the cost of food and return air fare.

Warning by coroner on old TV sets

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham.

People who have old television sets which might have suspect insulation, and who wanted to be completely safe, should consider replacing the sets, Dr Richard Whittington, the Birmingham coroner, said yesterday.

He recorded a verdict of accidental death on Mrs Flora Barton, a widow, aged 87, of Regent Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, who died last December when her nine-year-old rented television set caught fire. She was asphyxiated by carbon monoxide poisoning.

Her son, Mr Herbert Barton, said that the colour set was on hire from Visionhire. It had been serviced after he had reported loss of picture and he returned from work later to find the set had imploded and his moth dead in a chair near by.

The inquest heard evidence from two service engineers from the hire company. One said that two days before Mrs Barton's death he had replaced a frame panel. Two days later when the set had failed again another engineer called and replaced the same panel and the line power which was in the high voltage input area.

The replacement parts were not new and had been taken from other sets and thoroughly tested.

Mr Phillip Eggington, of the Midlands Electericity Board, said that to ensure brightness and definition of picture there 20,000 volts. Insulation in older sets could deteriorate over the years, leading to arcing.

Normally the reasons for arcing were moisture, an accumulation of dust or the breakdown of insulation from old age. He thought an insulation breakdown was the most likely cause of the fire.

Mr William Holland, Visionhire's area manager, said the set was a Pye CT 73 colour hybrid, which meant it had a mixture of valves and transistods. It had been installed in Mrs Barton's home in November, 1971. Since then engineers had been called out 40 times, but that was not unusual.



Photograph by Brian Harris

Cinderella touch: The glass coach in which Lady Diana Spencer will travel on the royal wedding day. Mr Richard Boland, the coachman, in the driving seat at the Royal Mews yesterday, dressed like the two footmen in full state livery.

Royal progress in rain or shine

By a Staff Reporter

Buckingham Palace yesterday released details of the carriage procession which will take the Royal Family to and from St Paul's Cathedral for the wedding of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer on July 29.

But, aware of the unpredictable nature of the English climate, the Lord Chamberlain's office has drawn up alternative plans for covered carriages in case it rains.

If the weather is fine, Lady Diana, travelling with her father, Lord Spencer, in a glass coach pulled by a pair of bay horses, will be the last to arrive at the cathedral for the 11am service, accompanied by an escort of mounted police and military police.

The Prince, who will travel in the 1902 state postillion landau with Prince Andrew, the elder of his two supporters, will be escorted by members of the first and second divisions of the Sovereign's Escort. A second open carriage will carry his entourage.

The Queen, in an open semi-state postilion landau drawn by four grey horses, will be first to arrive, escorted by mounted police and the first, second and third divisions of the Escort.

She will be accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh and surrounded by a standard party, an escort commander, a field officer of the Escort, the Silver Stick Adjutant and the Silver Stick in Waiting.

After the service, which will last about an hour, the bride and bridegroom will leave St Paul's in the open 1902 state landau drawn by four greys. With them will be their bridesmaids and pages, travelling in Queen Alexandra's state coach and the glass coach.

The Queen will travel with Lord Spencer, while the Duke of Edinburgh will be in the second carriage with Mrs Shand Kydd, Lady Diana's mother. The rest of the procession will be made up as before, with the mounted police bringing up the rear.

If it rains, the Queen will travel to St. Paul's in the Irish state coach, the Queen Mother in Queen Alexandra's state coach; the bridegroom in the Scottish state coach and the bride in the glass coach.

On the return journey the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales will travel in the Scottish state coach, drawn by four greys.

Fraud team saves £40m in benefits

By Pat Healy,
Social Services Correspondent

The Government is to continue its efforts to check fraud and abuse of social security, at least in the present financial year. That was made clear yesterday when Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, made available the detailed calculations for his claim that the campaign has saved £40m in benefits.

The method used shows that the savings may be less than a quarter of the £40m claimed, since actual weekly benefit savings have been multiplied according to assumptions about how much longer those benefits might have continued.

Mr Jenkin also confirmed publicly for the first time that the new specialist claims control procedures, regulations for which were leaked in *The Times*, are intended to be extended from their regional operations to a national system.

The procedures, which have been criticized as threatening privacy and subjecting virtually all one-parent families to suspicion of fraud, are being developed in the light of that change, and not because anything has gone wrong, Mr Jenkin said in a statement placed in the House of Commons lib-

The statement outlined the progress made since Mr Jenkin initiated the fraud campaign by adding an extra, 1,050 staff to fraud and abuse work.

Mr Jenkin said that extra staff had not only saved more than £50m at an administrative cost of about £10m since August, 1979. They would also yield unquantifiable savings through their deterrent effect as widening knowledge of the checks being made countered the temptation towards fraud or abuse.

"Another bonus has been that the detailed returns have given us more insight into how best to tackle fraud and abuse. It would clearly be bad value for money to check the momentum now built up and disperse staff who have now become fully effective."

The Irish most at risk from drink

By Our Medical Correspondent

The Irish living in South-east England are five times more likely than their English neighbours to be admitted to a mental hospital because of alcoholism.

Immigrants from the Irish Republic and people who have come from Northern Ireland have about twice as many admissions to mental hospitals overall as the average population born in South-east England.

Those statistics, published today in the *British Medical Journal*, are part of a comprehensive study by the Medico-Social Research Board in Dublin of admissions to mental hospitals. The figures are based on the 1971 census, which recorded 319,410 immigrants from all parts of Ireland in South-east England.

Admission rates for the whole range of mental disorders were compared with those of the English population, taking account of age and sex. Admissions among the Irish for alcoholism and alcoholic psychosis, were 5.3 times the expected number. Schizophrenia was more than twice as common as expected in both men and women.

In contrast admission rates for alcoholism among immigrants from Germany, Italy, Poland and the new Commonwealth, were lower than for the English. When immigrants are found to have more mental illness than the local population three explanations are usually put forward.

Psychiatric illness may be more common in some nationalities than others; migration may be a stressful experience that increases the frequency of mental disorders; or people with mental disorders may be more likely to leave their own country.

Some support for the first explanation comes from the findings that high as the admission rates were among the Irish living in South-East England they are even higher in the Irish Republic itself.

☐ About 75,000 people out of Scotland's population of just over two million are problem drinkers, according to Dr Douglas Bell, senior employment medical adviser of the Scottish Health and Safety Executive yesterday.

He was speaking at a press conference in Edinburgh to launch a paper offering guidance on joint management and trade union cooperation to assist such drinkers. "What we are encouraging employers to do is to look more critically at their staff, but with alcohol in mind," he said.

Fabians' ballot sets record

By Ian Bradley

The Fabian Society has had a record response to its ballot on whether members of political parties other than the Labour Party should be eligible for full membership.

The ballot, which closes on Monday, has so far attracted between 2,500 and 3,000 replies from a membership of about 6,000.

Mr David Lipsey, the society's chairman, said that it was the biggest poll that the society had had in any election since the war.

The ballot asks whether members would favour a revision in the society's rule so that only those who are eligible for membership of the Labour Party can be full members.

It was called as a result of the formation of the Social Democratic Party, many of whose members are Fabians.

However, the society emphasizes that rule change would disbar Communist Party members as well as Social Democrats from full membership. They could still remain as associate members.

Results of the ballot, which will be decisive in establishing whether the rule should be changed, will be known on Tuesday.

UNION OPPOSES HOTEL SALE

The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen pledged opposition yesterday to the Government's decision to invite outside investors to take a stake in three British Rail hotels in Scotland (Our Labour Staff writes).

The union, at a policy conference in London, authorized its executive to encourage trade union action at all levels to keep British Rail's profitable operations intact.

The hotels are the Gleneagles, and the North British and Celedonian, both in Edinburgh.

British citizen's 12-year fight to leave Russia

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Arthur Raffé, aged 57, a British citizen trapped in Moscow, wants to return to London which he left as a boy. But after a 12-year campaign he has been turned away twice from the British Embassy by Russian police, who confiscated his British passport.

Mr Raffé said that each time he was held for over two hours and questioned. Now Mr Michael Holmes, the British Consul, had got his passport back for him, but he is no nearer to coming home.

Mr Nikolai Ouspensky, press attaché at the Soviet Embassy in London, said he had no knowledge of the case but confirmed that permission would have to be obtained from the local authority in Russia for a visit to Britain. But even if Mr Raffé were a Russian citizen, that alone would not preclude him from leaving.

Mr Raffé's story is less reassuring. He has been trying to come to Britain, first as a visitor, then to live, since 1968, after a period in Lubyanka prison and a labour camp and after finally convincing the British authorities he was who he said he was, they gave him his passport.

He was taken to Russia as a child by his mother to live with the man he thought was his father after her marriage broke up. He discovered the truth after the death of David Shkarovsky, the Russian Jew he assumed was his father, in a Moscow air raid in 1941. American Jews living near by told him something of his background, and he began looking for his real father.

His first success came when he casually looked in a reference book in a library in 1942 and found there the name of W. G. Raffé, who turned out to be a well known artist of his time and an expert in the historical study of the dance.

But his contact with foreigners in search of his father got him into trouble. He was arrested in 1951 on a charge of spying, which was later changed to one of anti-Soviet agitation. He said: "I had told some foreigners I had been having a hard time in the war".

He was held in the Lubyanka for six to seven months, and then sent to a corrective labour camp at Kargopol, near Archangel. He was released in 1955, two years after Stalin's death.

After he got friends to look through London telephone directories his 20-year search for his father came to an end. But he found that he had died two years before.

The story he pieced together was as follows. He was born to W. G. Raffé and his wife (née Frances Solomons) on January 28, 1924, in Calcutta. His father, principal of the Lucknow College of Art, came back with the family to England later that year, but his mother took the child with her to live with Mr Shkarovsky.

He went to Canonbury Road School, Islington, where he won violin scholarships from the Guildhall School of Music and London County Council. In the summer of 1935 he was taken at the age of 11½ to the Soviet Union by his mother to join Mr Shkarovsky, who had preceded them there.

His mother died in Moscow in 1935 and his real father remarried.

Now a translator in Russia, Mr Raffé tells, in excellent English with traces of a London accent, how he is still, bedevilled by bureaucracy.

He has been trying to reject Russian citizenship and come to Britain ahead of his wife to set up home, but he needs a character reference from his place of work, signed by the party organizer, the trade union organizer, and the manager, with an official seal from the organization.

But they do not wish to give it to him, because he is a freelance, not a full-time employee. He has appealed for help to President Brezhnev, the Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A week ago, he says, the British Embassy sent yet another application on his behalf.

X-ray test on Asian children is condemned

By Lucy Hodges

The practice of examining Asian children with X-rays to find out their ages before they come to Britain is condemned today as inaccurate and dangerous by Lord Avebury, the Liberal peer.

A 21-page study prepared by Mr Edward White, Lord Avebury's research assistant, of Yale University, and published today, calls for a ban on the practice. It says the Yellowlees report, commissioned by the Government into the medical testing of immigrants, skimmed blindly over the issue.

"The Yellowlees report contains no limitations or safeguard recommendation which show either an understanding of any of the issues involved or a concern for the people the report affects," the study says.

The report by Sir Henry Yellowlees was undertaken after protests about an Asian woman who had been subjected to a virginity test, and about bone X-ray examinations. Those X-rays are carried out only on Asian children when immigration officials are in doubt about their age.

The Yellowlees report concluded that it was ethical to make X-ray examinations to estimate bone age and that it was a useful, fairly accurate and acceptably safe method. The study disputes that.

Its findings are endorsed by an ad-hoc committee drawn from the British Medical Association, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, the United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service, the Trade Union Congress and regional health authorities.

The Avebury study says there is no safe level of radiation exposure and that bone X-ray examinations to determine age are inaccurate.

Bone X-ray tests measure skeletal age and are used by doctors to see whether children's bone growth is relatively advanced or retarded for their age. They are used to assess maturity, not children's chronological age.

A child with a bone age of 11 could have an actual age of between nine and 13. The report says the examinations on Asian children are being used to measure something for which they were not designed.

There is, therefore, a wide margin of error which is compounded by the fact that the standards used are those of the Western world.

No return for Czech dissident

By John Witherow

Dr Julius Tomin, the Oxford philosopher, has been deprived of his Czechoslovak citizenship because of comments he made about Poland last year.

The Czechoslovak embassy told Dr Tomin last week that he and his wife, a former member of the Charter 77 human rights group, could not return to the country because of statements they had made to the BBC and *The Times*, saying that the strikes in Poland would "pour pride" into Czechoslovak workers.

The couple and their two children had been granted a five-year exit visa last August for Dr Tomin to lecture in ancient Greek philosophy at Balliol College. Charter 77 sources said at the time that it was likely their citizenship would be revoked after about a year, as has occurred with other dissidents.

Dr Tomin, aged 42, left Czechoslovakia after police harassment had forced him to abandon unofficial seminars, known as the "Patocka university", in which he invited foreign academics to lecture at private flats in Prague.

Three Oxford dons, including Dr Anthony Kenny, the Master of Balliol College, and Dr William Newton-Smith, a senior tutor, have been expelled from Czechoslovakia for delivering papers at the seminars.

Dr Tomin has appealed against the removal of citizenship,

In a document released to the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, he denied that he was an enemy of the Czechoslovak regime and said he still considered himself a citizen of the country and planned one day to return.

"It is my duty to return. I make no conditions and I know returning to Prague will never be returning to paradise. But Oxford has invested so much priceless learning in me and there are hardly any Greek reading scholars in Czechoslovakia. I must share this learning."

Before leaving Czechoslovakia Dr Tomin signed a statement saying that he would not engage in anti-Czechoslovak or anti-socialist activities while abroad, but added a proviso that he could only harm the country's interest by not behaving or thinking freely.

He has since been careful not to make inflammatory statements and was particularly circumspect in his comments published in *The Times* last year.

FILM PRODUCER ON CAR DEATH CHARGE

Ricardo di Tommaso, aged 39, film producer, of Mulberry Trees, Shepperton, was yesterday accused at Feltham of causing the death by reckless driving of Mr Donald Ranger, aged 49, managing director of the Heron Motor Corporation, of The Avenue, Sunbury, Middlesex, in January. Mr di Tommaso was given unconditional bail.

Stansted not necessary, airline says

By a Staff Reporter

Building a fifth terminal at Heathrow Airport, instead of greatly expanding Stansted, in Essex, would make better sense commercially and environmentally and would save the taxpayer more than £500m, British Airways said yesterday.

Releasing details of the case it will argue at the Stansted public inquiry this September, the airline said that developing Stansted as London's third airport would cost almost three times as much as a fifth terminal, £869m, at 1979 prices, compared with £324m.

Fragmentation of its operations at a third centre would reduce efficiency, increase overheads, involve buying 40 extra aircraft and probably cost the airline an extra £150-200m a year, leading to higher fares.

The airline forecasts that the recession will mean that 10,600,000 fewer air passengers will be passing through London than the 70,200,000 predicted by the British Airports Authority.

The result of expanding Stansted would be a duplication of services involving smaller, noisier aircraft, rather than a concentration of larger, quieter ones at Heathrow,

Rooms with a view



Photograph by Keith Waldegrave

The vista from a five-bedroom tower penthouse flat at the Barbican Centre.

£500,000 council flat goes on sale

By Baron Phillips

Britain's most expensive council flats go on sale this weekend. No other sale of council-owned property is likely to attract as much attention and interest among the well-to-do professional classes.

The sale is of flats in tower blocks rising above the City of London, only a brisk walk from the Bank of England and the nation's financial heart. The blocks form part of the Barbican Centre developed by the City of London Corporation during the 1960s.

For a mere £500,000 a specious five-bendroom penthouse flat with panoramic views of London can be purchased. Or if that price tag is likely to make your bank manager's heart miss a beat or two then more modest three-bedroom flats are available for between £80,500 to £140,000.

It seems the inevitable has finally come to be. After the 1980 Housing Act the City of London Corporation has been pushed into allowing sitting or secured tenants to buy their homes. But these 100 expensive council flats are vacant and the corporation has decided to put them on the open market rather than simply wait for them to be occupied.

Interest in the flats, originally designed for middle and high income families, has been intense. On Sunday when the estates department's doors opened at 10 am a queue of 50 people had formed. One couple had waited since 3 am. By the close of business 31 flats were under offer; that has increased to 39.

The Barbican has a long and chequered history. A concept for building a huge residential development o nthe edge of the City was floated after the Second World War when London was being reconstructer after the damage it endured from German bombing. But it took almost a decade to get the scheme onto the architects' drawing board.

There were political clashes within the City Corporation and the then London County Council over the proposed scheme. Work finally started towards the end of 1959 and the residential heart of the Barbican was completed in 1975.

One of the reasons the corporation is selling off this first branche of 100 flats is to help pay off the interest charges on the Barbican development which are running at between £3.5m and £3.75m a year. It cost the corporation £50m to build the residential part of the Barbican.

About 5,500 people live in the 2,011 flats which make up the Barbican. The accommodation varies from bedsitters on sale for between £28,000 and £30,000, and the spectacular five-bedroom penthouse flats perched at the top of Lauderdale Tower.

To buy one of the luxurious penthouses with their superb views across London you not only need £500,000 cash it will also cost the buyer almost £150 a week simply to carry on living there in rates and service charges. Even in the more modest three-bedroom flats in Cromwell Tower near by, which sell for £80,000, will cost an additional £60 a week to maintain.

Lothian council to lose £53m grant

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

Cuts in the rate support grant of more than £63m for seven Scottish local authorities were announced yesterday by Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland. The Lothian Regional Council was warned that it would face a grant reduction of £53m because of "excessive and unreasonable" spending plans.

Six district councils affected by the Government's tough measures to curb local government spending are Renfrew (£3.8m cut), Dundee (£2.75m), East Lothian (£1.35m), Stirling (£1.25m), Dumbarton (£750,000) and Cumnock and Doon (£450,000).

The miscellaneous provisions Bill for Scottish local government will shortly receive royal assent and will oblige the local authorities warned by the Secretary of State to make a formal reply. After that a report will be laid before Parliament, seeking approval to cut the rate support grant.

The severity of the action in Lothian region was greater than had been expected and Labour politicians on the council were yesterday regarding the warning as a long way from being a final demand by the Government.

Mrs Phyllis Herriot, leader of the Labour group on the council, said she was extremely angry at the scale of the cuts, which could cause the loss of thousands of jobs and the decimation of local government services. Trade unions would be among those consulted in deciding what action to take.

Under the Bill the Secretary of State will have power to reduce the rate support grant if he was satisfied that an authority planned to incur an excessive and unreasonable level of expenditure. The letters issued yesterday gave the councils a last chance to revise their budgets before Mr Younger sought parliamentary approval to impose cuts.

The rate support grant covers more than 60 per cent of the spending by the local authorities in Scotland.

Mr Younger made it clear in his letter that the announcement was only a preliminary view. It did not exclude the possibility that reductions would be proposed for other authorities as well.

The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities is opposed to the Government's policy on local authority spending. It points out that in real terms spending in Scotland has been reduced from £2,600m in 1975 to 1976 to a present level of just over £2,000m.

In the same period central government had increased its spending and had a much worse record at meeting budgetary targets.

The guidelines used by the Government for local authority spending had turned into mandatory levels arrived at without negotiation.

Mr Ronald Young, of Strathclyde Regional Council, yesterday described the powers in the Bill as thoroughly dangerous to the whole notion of local government. Central government he said, was moving in to tell individual local authorities what they should be spendding, and effectively taking over the decision-making in local government.

He said that all but six of the 65 Scottish authorities were over the guidelines.

The newly elected Labour administration of one of the country's most marginal county councils, delivered a shock to its ratepayers (our Bristol Correspondent writes). Mr William Graves, head of Avon County Council, announced a supplementary rate that will add £20 to the average bills of local ratepayers.

Speaking at his administration's first press conference since coming to power, Mr Graves said that it had no alternative but to levy the additional rate to carry out its election promises and comply with government cuts.

With only £1m in hand it had to impose a supplementary rate of between 8p and 10p to raise the £10m needed to run the council.

INQUIRY ON WEIR DROWNINGS

A council announced yesterday that is to investigate safety measures at the weir near Newark, Nottinghamshire, in which two people drowned in a cabin accident on Wednesday.

Councillor Michael Cowan, leader of Newark district council, said that a public inquiry six years ago recommended placing a chain across the weir after 13 Scottish soldiers had been swept to their deaths, but the chain was never erected.

Mr Cowan said: "We shall certainly be asking the appropriate authority about the safety measures at the weir. The council will also be suggesting additional safeguards."

The British Waterways Board in London said that an internal inquiry had been ordered, and that a police report was awaited.

The two people who drowned on Wednesday were Mrs Christine Sloan, aged 34, and Mr Keith Hood, aged 37, from Ashford, Kent.

Mrs Sloan's two children, Anita, aged 12, and Simon, aged 13, were rescued and taken to hospital, where Simon is in a critical condition.

IN BRIEF

New organ donor card launched

A new plastic organ donor card was launched yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Security. Twelve million will be distributed through chemists shops, doctors and the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

The cards specify which organs the carrier offers for transplant after death, replacing a number of cardboard cards.

Inter-city flights

Dan-Air are to operate a new service between Newcastle upon Tyne and Aberdeen on Saturdays and Sundays from this weekend. Fares start from £22. Another service will operate between Newcastle and Jersey every Sunday with fares from £33.

Murder charge

Anthony Frank Pattison, aged 27, a warehouse manager, of St Mary's Mount, Wyke, Bradford, was remanded in custody for a week when he appeared before Bradford magistrates yesterday, accused of murdering Anne-Marie Hamilton, aged five, also of Wyke.

Crossbow boy order

A boy of 15 from Crowthorne, Berkshire, who caused an Exeter hotel to be evacuated after threatening a porter with a crossbow, was placed under supervision for three years by magistrates at a juvenile court in Bracknell, Berkshire, yesterday.

Mayor snubs Maxwell

Mr. Henry Nimmo, Oxford's Labour Lord Mayor, has declined an invitation to a reception given by Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, tomorrow. He refuses to cross a picket line of journalists who are on strike at Mr Maxwell's Pergamon Press.

Post office raid

Raiders dragged Mr Ayub Ali Shah from his home and forced him at gunpoint to hand over about £20,000 from his post office at Dagenham, Essex, early yesterday. One of the gang stayed behind and guarded Mr Shah's sleeping wife and children.

Soldier feared dead

A rifleman in the Royal Green Jackets was feared drowned yesterday after getting into difficulties while swimming. Two friends were unable to pull him from the lake at Llyn Cwnorchin, Blaenau.

Getting defence review right

Safety net to absorb the lean years

By Peter Hennessy

DEFENCE BUDGET PROJECTIONS

£m at 1980 Survey prices

Conservative programme mk I 1980 Defence White Paper

Conservative programme mk II new baseline for defence spending after cuts announced in November 1980

Estimated datum for 1981 Public Expenditure Survey upper and lower limits

Projection of Labour's programme contained in 1979 Defence White Paper

Source: Centre for Defence Studies, Aberdeen University

British defence reviews, like wars to end wars, have a depressing habit of being overtaken by events within a short time. Since 1945 there have been five substantial attempts to achieve stability in defence spending by scaling down aspirations to match the capacity of the economy to pay for them.

What does Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, need to do to succeed where Sir Edmund Harwood failed in 1949, with Mr Duncan (now Lord) Sandys in 1957, Mr Denis Healey in his twin reviews of 1964-66 and 1967-68, and Mr Roy Mason in 1974-75 following down the same path?

That question is preoccupying the Ministry of Defence as it puts its final touches to the paper to be presented to the Cabinet's Oversea and Defence Committee on Monday.

The answer, according to Mr David Greenwood, Director of the Centre for Defence Studies at Aberdeen University, is to build in a safety net sufficiently flexible to absorb a run of lean years in defence spending without destroying the logic of whatever new balance the Cabinet decides to impose on the country's defence effort.

Using figures published in *The Times* on May 22, which suggested that the final outcome of the sixth defence review since the Second World War was likely to be a £6,000m cut spread over 15 years (with the bulk of it falling in the first 10 years), Mr Greenwood has prepared a graph showing the envelope into which the Nott package will probably fall, depicted as a shaded space in the illustration.

Its upper limit postulates a relatively benign Chancellor of the Exchequer allowing an annual growth in the defence budget of about 1½ per cent over the coming decade. The lower line traces an expenditure path of just under one per cent growth a year.

Using figures that Mr Greenwood emphasizes can only be rough and ready, should the Cabinet approve economies corresponding to the upper line, the cuts should rise from about £50m next year to an average annual saving of about £350m in the second half of the 1980s. Should a deeper bite, corresponing to the lower limit, be decided upon, the cuts could rise to £450m a year by the mid-1980s, reaching £700m annually in the later 1980s and beyond.

The closer the final shape of the defence review accords with the lower limit, the less likely will be repeat performance in a few years time or the need for a spending moratorium, such as that imposed last year.

What does Mr Greenwood expect Mr Nott's review to produce? For all the minister's assurances that it is not a straight choice between a continental or a maritime strategy he says that is what it is about.

Clearly the Trident deterrent will survive as will the air defence of the United Kingdom. Some capacity will remain for keeping the western approaches open in the event of a protracted land war in Europe. But the forward role of the Royal Navy task forces hunting Soviet missile-carrying submarines north of the Greenland-Iceland-Faroes gap will be a casualty of the review, Mr Greenwood believed.

On the horizon Mr Greenwood detects two difficulties of increasing magnitude. First, a shortage of manpower in the late 1980s arising from a drop in the pool of potential recruits, because of the falling birthrate in the 1960s.

Second, the increasing cost to Britain in terms of foreign exchange of the British Army of the Rhine could, he believes, inspire "some doctrinal movement" in British thinking about the ways of fighting a future land war in Europe.

Summing up, Mr Greenwood said: "We are like distressed gentlefolk in reduced circumstances living in a big house with a Daimler. But we can keep up appearances like this no longer and should be prepared to adopt a more becoming life-style."

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PARLIAMENT June 4 1981

Substantial signs of rising productivity

TREASURY

Continuing progress in the reduction of unit labour costs and the achievement of reasonable pay settlements was still the most effective contribution that could be made towards an expansion of investment and output, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said at question time in the Commons.

Mr Kenneth Woolmer (Batley and Morley, Lab) asked when the Chancellor expected capital investment in the United Kingdom to start rising again.

Sir Geoffrey Howe replied that the latest intentions inquiry by the Department of Industry into fixed investment by manufacturing, distributive and service industries points to a recovery in the volume of investment next year. There were substantial signs of rising productivity throughout British industry.

Mr Woolmer: Has he seen the official publication *British News*, which shows that his Government inherited a record level of manufacturing investment from the Labour Government?

The CBI's latest monthly report shows that investment in manufacturing fell last year, will fall by 15 per cent this year and fall again next year. Is this not a deplorable record?

When will he accept that it is his policies that are causing this destruction of our manufacturing base? He must change his policies and rebuild investment in industry or resign.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: He gives a distorted picture of what is happening. It is true that there has been a reduction in investment last year and this year, but there is likely to be a reversal of that and an increase in the following year.

It is also important to take into account when looking at surveys of business opinion that since the end of last year there has been an upward movement of business confidence, as expressed in surveys in *The Financial Times* as well as by the CBI.

Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L): When will his change of mind on the financing of capital investment by British Telecom be followed by a change of mind on British Rail, the National Coal Board, the Post Office and sewerage authorities?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: There is no question of any change of mind. The announcement by the Minister of State for Industry in relation to British Telecom investment was an announcement for a planned increaes in relation to profitable investment within existing programmes.

The reality is that nationalized industry investment is still running at broadly the same real level as in 1975. Over the next three years it is going to rise from £4,500m to £5,250m.

In considering such investment proposals, it is important to have in mind are they profitable and are the financial resources available.

Mr Robin Cook, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs (Edinburgh Central, Lab): How does he reconcile his answer on the CBI survey with the conclusion of the earlier survey that over half the firms surveyed will be investing less next year than last year?

How does he expect us to achieve the leaner and more competitive industry he is always promising, on the basis of falling investment in manufacturing industry?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: All these changes take place at different times in relation to each other. The reality is that there are substantial signs of rising productivity through British industry reported from many companies.

Still the most effective contribution that can be made towards an expansion of investment and output is continuing progress in the reduction of unit labour costs and the achievement of reasonable pay settlements.

Mr Joel Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab): There is a case for allowing a higher public sector borrowing requirement to finance increased capital investment in the public sector.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: That is one of the cases that can be made. But it is universally acknowledged that any significant increase in the scale of public sector borrowing is likely to have an upward effect on the level of interest rates. We must consider the effect of that on the prospect for investment in the private sector.

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, in other exchanges, said that if the country was to have increased capital expenditure, it had to have reduced current expenditure.

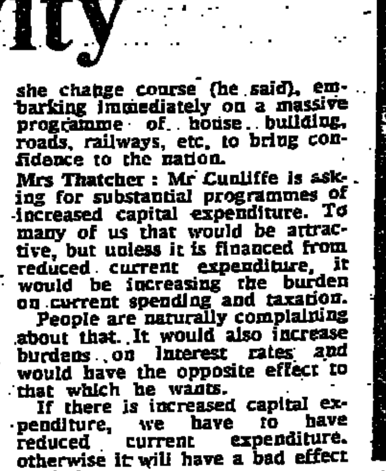
She was replying to **Mr Lawrence Cunliffe** (Leigh, Lab) who said that the latest unemployment figures reflected a grave and fast deteriorating situation which meant more misery and distress for the people.

Will she consider, since the British people are demanding that she change course (he said), embarking immediately on a massive programme of house building, roads, railways, etc, to bring confidence to the nation.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Cunliffe is asking for substantial programmes of increased capital expenditure. To many of us that would be attractive, but unless it is financed from reduced current expenditure, it would be increasing the burden on current spending and taxation.

People are naturally complaining about that. It would also increase burdens on interest rates and would have the opposite effect to that which he wants.

If there is increased capital expenditure, we have to have reduced current expenditure, otherwise it will have a bad effect on industry.





Howe: Incomes up



Shore: Tax up

Households are much better off

There was no prospect of reducing taxes unless the Opposition supported a reduction in public expenditure, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during questions. However, he said, the real disposable income of households was now substantially higher than under the Labour Government.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, asked by **Mr David Winnick** (Walsall, North, Lab) what plans he had to reduce the levels of taxation, replied: The burden of taxation will be reduced as soon as the economic circumstances allow.

Mr Winnick: In view of the Tory manifesto pledge at the last election that income tax would be cut at all levels, can he explain why a married couple with two children on average earnings is now paying considerably more in income tax as well as in indirect taxation?

Why did not the manifesto tell the truth and say simply that it would only be the rich and those with high earnings who would benefit from Tory tax cuts?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The position is not as he has described. The recent Budget imposed the largest tax increases on those with the highest incomes.

Real after-tax incomes between 1977-80 rose by 17 per cent and, even after taking account of the tax burden as it now stands, all households are considerably better off in real terms than in 1978-79.

Mr Peter Shore, Chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab): What are the facts about the increased burden of taxation? Is it, or is it not, the case that it has increased for the great mass of people at work, taking account of national insurance contributions, during the period in which he has been responsible for our affairs?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The facts are clear. During the time when national production has not been growing, the percentage burden of tax on income has increased, and there is no mystery about that.

That fact has to be viewed in the context of the rise in real personal incomes which has otherwise taken place. Putting those two things alongside one another, then for the great bulk of households real disposable personal income is substantially higher this year than when the Labour Party was in power.

Interest rates now among lowest

United Kingdom short-term interest rates are now among the lowest in industrialized countries, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said during questions about the level of interest rates.

The Chancellor pointed out that minimum lending rate had been reduced by 5 per cent since last summer to its present level of 12 per cent.

Mr Stanley Newens (Harlow, Lab): Do not international pressures for a rise in British interest rates demonstrate the tendency of monetarism and monetarist policies to plunge this economy, which is already depressed, into further depression?

Will he give a categorical assurance that he will resist any pressures for a further rise in interest rates, whatever the messages he receives from Friedmanite oracles?

Sir Geoffrey Howe (East Surrey, C): It is not my practice to make predictions about interest rate developments, still less to give pledges. But if we were to suffer the imposition of the £5,000m increase in borrowing that would follow from amendments moved by the Labour Party to the Finance Bill or the £10,000m increase in borrowing urged by Mr Denis Healey, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, this would send inflation soaring.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C): Bearing in mind that in this country the rise in interest rates is less than in most of our industrial competitors, and inflation is falling while it rises in most of our competitors, what is it about these facts that the Labour Party find so objectionable?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I cannot understand it and I share his sense of mystification.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North, Lab): To be fair to the Chancellor, if the object of his policy has been to reduce production and investment, to increase unemployment and to damage British industry, has he not been outstandingly successful?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: That question and his judgement of fairness does less than credit to himself. (Labour protests)

Powell wrong except in logic

The reduction of interest rates from 17 per cent to 12 per cent had been a great advantage to industry and commerce, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during exchanges in which several aspects of economic policy were questioned.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab) began them by asking: Will the Prime Minister consider the views expressed at yesterday's National Economic Development Council by the TUC, CBI, National Economic Development Office, and the chairmen of the nationalized industries? Can she explain why her Government will not allow nationalized industries to take advantage of all profitable investment opportunities?

Mrs Thatcher: If the nationalized industries were profitable they would have many investment opportunities. The real problem arises because the nationalized industries are not profitable, do not get a return on their resources, and if they go to the market to borrow money the vast majority need a Government guarantee and without that they would be hopeless at getting the money.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selly Oak, C): Will the Prime Minister recall the moans and groans of the TUC and CBI in November when the pound was at $2.42? Now that the pound has come back to $1.95 has she heard from the CBI and TUC about the opportunity that now gives them to compete?

Mrs Thatcher: The answer is "No". When the pound is high it means that the imports of raw materials are low; when the pound is low it means we are competitive in exports.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): Has Mrs Thatcher had any opportunity to consider the logical necessity, for the purpose of eliminating inflation, of attempting to reduce the real remuneration of those in public non-commercial employment?

Mrs Thatcher: I understand what he is saying. In strict academic logic, disregarding the numbers in the public sector, the need for capital expenditure, capital equipment, levels of taxation and levels of interest rate and logic, Mr Powell is right. In everything else he is wrong.

Mr Nicholas Lyell (Hemel Hempstead, C): Will she take the opportunity to point out the beneficial effects the wise policies of restraint on spending and borrowing are having on our current rates of interest?

Will she also take the opportunity to confirm that it is her intention that those interest rates should continue to go down for the benefit of our manufacturers?

Mrs Thatcher: If there is to be a tremendous demand for increasing public expenditure which is in any way to be met, it would have a bad effect on interest rates. So far they have gone down from 17 per cent to 12 per cent and that has been a very great advantage for commerce and industry in this country.

Mr Nigel Spearing (Newham, South, Lab): Will she remember that President Roosevelt produced an imaginative scheme of public works like the Tennessee Valley Authority and explain why it cannot be done here? Is it a question of political philosophy or changed economic conditions?

Mrs Thatcher: No. It is a change in the level of public spending. The fact is that even through boom periods, the level of public spending in Britain has been high as a proportion of national product.

Government have done more on EEC

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, who rose to loud cheers, called upon the Prime Minister to assist the House and the country by clearing up the apparent deep confusion—(Conservative laughter)—revealed on the front page of *The Times* between the Foreign Secretary (Lord Carrington) and the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir Geoffrey Howe) on the important question of negotiations, or possible negotiations, with the EEC.

Does she agree with the apparent view of the Chancellor (he went on) that there is little prospect of fundamental budgetary reform in the EEC?

Does that not mean, if it is the case, that Britain is going to remain the largest net contributor to the EEC for the foreseeable future and, indeed, that the burden is likely to increase in the period ahead?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Foot asked me to clear up confusion. Britain is not the largest net contributor to the EEC. Germany is by far the largest net contributor to the EEC. We are the second net largest contributor, and a long way from Germany's net contribution.

There is no disagreement between the Treasury and the Foreign Office. I am the First Lord of the Treasury and in charge of the negotiations with Europe and I am not disagreeing with myself. (Conservative laughter and cheers.)

Mr Foot: I can well understand her determination not to leave negotiations to her colleagues.

Can she tell when in these negotiations, if she is in charge of them, will she carry out the resolution unanimously put through the House of Commons in November 1979 and on some other occasions which underlines the view of the House that this country should not be a net contributor as she has arranged so far?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Foot does not understand. Negotiations are negotiations. The record shows that this party and Government have done a jolly sight better than his. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Foot: When will she carry out the resolution unanimously passed by the House of Commons for which she voted?

Mrs Thatcher: We have done about £700m a year better than the Labour Party. That is not a bad start. (Renewed cheers.)

Beer not being priced out of reach

The contention that increases in duty were pricing the pint of beer out of the working man's pocket could be disproved, Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said, by venturing into any public house.

Mr Robert Parry (Liverpool, Scotland Exchange, Lab) complained that the price had increased more in the United Kingdom than in any other EEC country, excluding the Republic of Ireland.

Mr Lawson (Blaby, C): The increase in the duty on beer over the first three Budgets of this Government, of 70 per cent needs to be put into perspective with the first three spring Budgets of Mr Denis Healey, the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, when the beer duty was increased by 130 per cent. (Conservative cheers.)

The beer duty in real terms is today below the level at which it stood in 1970.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C): As the non-executive chairman of Camra Real Ale Investment Ltd, may I say that beer is one of the great traditions of the United Kingdom. (Cheers.) The duty has been increased more on beer and less on wine in order to soak up the wine lake that has developed in Europe. We are placing many brewery workers out of jobs in this country and are almost pricing beer out of the reach of the ordinary man and woman. (Laughter and cheers.)

Mr Lawson: There is no evidence whatever that any jobs lost in the brewing industry over the past year have been as a result of the increase in the duty on beer. There have been other reasons for that.

In the Budget we also increased the duty on wines and spirits.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Motion on MPs' salaries and allowances. **Lords** (11): Industrial Diseases (Notification) Bill, Horserace Betting Levy Bill, and Disabled Persons (No 2) Bill, second readings.

HOUSE OF LORDS

Nothing sinister about sale of railway hotels

TRANSPORT BILL

There was nothing sinister in the fact that the Government had announced consent to the sale of British Rail hotels to a new private sector company the day before the Transport Bill started its committee stage in the Lords, Lord Bellwin, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

There were existing powers to dispose of these hotels under the Transport Act 1962, but this was not enacted with the present purpose in mind and in practice had been used in a limited way.

Lord Bellwin was replying to Lord Undehill who, speaking for the Opposition, at the start of the committee stage of the Bill, said he wanted to make the most emphatic protest at the announcement about the sale of three subsidiaries of British Rail just before the Lords started in the committee stage. Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Transport, had stated that British Rail already had these powers, but if this was correct, why bring forward provisions in this Bill giving British Railways Board power to provide for the disposal as they thought fit of the whole or any part of their subsidiaries?

Where in the Conservative Party manifesto at the last election was there any reference to the disposal of British Rail subsidiaries? The relevant clause in the Bill neither named any particular subsidiary nor limited the subsidiaries that might be dealt with. He moved an amendment to delete the provision.

There had been no previous reference to there being legislation on the statute book to enable the sale of subsidiaries to take place before this Bill had even passed through Parliament. Nor had reference been made at second reading.

It was treating the Lords with disdain that they should learn of this Act before a single amendment had been proposed in committee today.

Lord Bellwin said the Government and the board had agreed what the policy should be. They were clear about the goal at which they were aiming, namely to put this business into the private sector where their future would be determined not by external pressures and restraints, but by their own performance.

The Government had accepted that the best way to proceed was for the board to take the lead and put forward proposals.

On the announced sale of hotels, although earlier powers seemed to be sufficient in the Transport Act, 1962 it was not enacted with the present purpose in mind. Rather than relying on such a power, it seemed right to the Government to put the matter beyond doubt by including a new power in this Bill designed for the present purpose. In this way Parliament's intentions would be clear.

The powers were there and there had been precedents. It would not be right with matters of this kind which had commercial implications that they should be subject to the timing of the bringing forward of a Bill today when powers already existed.

It was for the board to decide on the scope and use of existing powers. It had decided on the sale of Gleneagles and other hotels and this was a matter for them. The consent of the Secretary of State was not required.

Lord Mishcon (Lab) intervened to say he did not have a copy of *Hansard*, but *The Times* Parliamentary report quoted Mr Fowler as saying in the Commons: "A shareholding of this kind requires my consent and on the material available to me, I am ready to consent to such an acquisition".

That runs completely contrary to what Lord Bellwin said just now which was that no ministerial consent was required and none had been given.

Lord Bellwin: It would be fair to say what Lord Mishcon has read out is indeed what Mr Fowler said in the Commons, but the Secretary of State's consent is required to the acquisition of the hotels. It is also right to say the proposal is still the subject of informal discussions between advisers to British Rail and the potential investors.

Lord Mishcon: Is he now saying that what he said before, namely that the ministerial consent was not required, was inadvertently wrong? How did Lord Bellwin distinguish between acquisition and purchase in ordinary English.

Lord Bellwin: The Secretary of State's consent is required to the acquisition of the shareholdings. Presumably, he can give that consent only when the details are known. So far as I am aware the actual details of the transaction are not finalised.

Underhill: House treated with disdain.

The amendment was negatived.

The report stage was adjourned.

The Licensing (Amendment) Bill, which amends the Licensing Act 1964 in relation to special hours certificates, was read the third time.

The Fisheries Bill, which establishes a Sea Fish Industry Authority to promote efficiency in the industry, and provides the industry with financial assistance, completed its remaining stages.

New company to run Gleneagles

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, announced details of the methods to be used to establish the new company to operate the Gleneagles Hotel, Perthshire and the North British and Caledonian Hotels in Edinburgh.

He said in a written reply: The method of creating the new company, on which the main advisers to the Board have been the British Linen Bank, involves valuation of the businesses at £10.25m on the basis that the British Railways Board, through British Transport Hotels Ltd, will retain a one third stake in the new company.

British Transport Hotels will realize £5.75m from the transaction and an additional £4.5m shares and loan stock.

Had the Board decided to sell the three hotels outright, they have been professionally advised that the total market price might have been £12.73m. The discount arises because the sales is not outright. I do not recognize the figure of £4m quoted as the discount on the price by Mr John Prescott, (Kingston-upon-Hull East, Lab) yesterday, nor his figure of loss of income.

Arrangements for the future trading of shares in the company or the sale of its assets are a matter for agreement between the potential investors, including, under this arrangement, British Rail.

Higher registration fees soon

NATIONALITY BILL

No individual should be precluded from getting British citizenship because of their lack of means, Mr John Tilley, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said at the opening of the third day of the British Nationality Bill's report stage.

He moved an amendment which would require the Government to bring before the Commons any proposals to increase the fees for registration on naturalisation.

He said the present costs were £50 for registration and £150 for the longer process of naturalisation. The Opposition was concerned that these fees would be unduly increased over the next few years and create undue hardship.

There had been some indications that the nationality division of the Home Office had prepared proposals for the level of fees but ministers had decided not to make them public until the Bill had gone through the House. The Opposition believed that there should be a £50 fee for registration and naturalisation and that it should increase in line with the cost of living.

The Opposition wanted British nationality to be open to all those who qualified for it, but not open like the Savoy was open to all; open only as a price which as it now stood—and the Government intended to raise it in order to balance the books— the majority of people who would qualify could not afford.

Mr Ivor Stanbrook (Bromley, Orpington, C) said he rejected the special pleading implicit in the amendment. British citizenship was like a precious jewel, beyond compare, and those people who under this law would be entitled to apply for it were lucky to be in such a position.

Therefore it was impossible to set a sufficient price upon a privilege like this. Any economic price set must be the one which dictated the fee charged.

Mr Thomas Cox (Wandsworth, Tooting, Lab) said the present cost of nationality presented enormous problems to many families. The cost was £150 but there was no assurance that in a year or two the figure might not go up considerably.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary (Penrith and the Border, C), said it had been made clear by the Government that it was its policy to recover as far as possible through fees the administrative costs of a nationality application. They were a long way from achieving this objective at present. Further increases in fees were inevitable in due course.

He took the view that while one must seek to keep the costs down as much as possible there came a point when it was reasonable to ask people to pay a considerably larger percentage of the costs than they were doing at the moment for acquiring British citizenship.

Under the British Nationality Act, 1948, the level of fees were not subject to any parliamentary procedure but now, under this Bill, they were moving to the negative resolution procedure. This was an advance because there would now be an opportunity to debate the fees.

The amendment was rejected by 264 votes to 225—Government majority, 39.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C) moved an amendment to delete a paragraph in the Bill requiring any discretion vested in the Bill in the Secretary of State, a Governor or Lieutenant Governor to be exercised without regard to the race, colour or religion of any person wh9 might be affected by its exercise.

This is not (he said) because I oppose the sentiments of the subsection. I do not think anybody could oppose the sentiments. It was because the subsection was nonsense and had not a scintilla of effect on the law of the land or the application of that law. It was purely verbiage, a sop to the noisy, uninformed critics of the Bill.

It was pure preaching and exhortation which was acceptable in a pulpit but absurd in an Act of Parliament.

This was not a racialist Bill so there was no need to introduce this provision and the Government should have left well alone.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Birmingham, Sparkbrook, Lab), said that while the Bill would bear with disproportionate force on the ethnic minorities, he had no doubt that it was not the Government's intention that it should operate in that way. It had never been his purpose to accuse the Government or the Home Secretary of racialist intentions.

What the Bill ought to do was to allay the fears of the racial minorities, and this clause in some small measure achieved that desirable objective.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office (Aylesbury, C), said he could not recommend the acceptance of the amendment because it would remove a provision which had a useful role to play, not least in reassuring those ethnic minorities in the country who had expressed fears and anxieties about the Bill.

The Government did not believe those anxieties and fears were justified and they had been played upon by various elements, but it recognized they existed and was concerned to allay them. It would help people in the ethnic communities feel secure.

The amendment was negative.

Mr Edward Lyons (Bradford, West, SDP) moved an amendment to ensure that there would be a right of judicial review in respect of refusals of applications for citizenship.

He said that this would mean that the judiciary, and the divisional court in particular, could look at the method by which decisions were reached and determine whether there had been a proper exercise of discretion by officers of the executive and whether the rights of natural justice had been observed.

By deliberately inserting in the Bill the exclusion of the right of judicial review, the Home Office had shown that they were determined that no one should interfere in its operations over nationality.

The Government had gone out of its way to prevent an examination of the way decisions were made. This showed a nervousness which a self-respecting Home Office need not show if it was confident that all its operations could stand the scrutiny of Britain's High Court judges.

Mr Timothy Raison said the Government could not accept the amendment. The person who had an entitlement to citizenship had to fulfil criteria which were essentially objective, such as residence and citizenship status.

If an applicant for citizenship as an entitlement considertd that the Home Secretary had acted wrongly or unreasonably and requested a judicial review, the courts could consider the procedures leading to that decision and whether a fair and reasonable decision had been reached.

But citizenship by grant rested, to a considerable extent, on different criteria. The applicant had to meet subjective criteria, most notably good characte. As long as the good character requirement remained and was assessed on the basis of reports, it would not be apt to permit applicants for citizenship by grant to seek a judicial review of the decision to refuse that citizenship.

The amendment was rejected by 282 votes to 231—Government majority, 51.

Miss Jo Richardson (Barking, Lab) moved an amendment to give an illegitimate child the same rights to derive citizenship from its father as a legitimate child. Under the Bill the relationship of a father to a child was to be taken to exist only between a man and a legitimate child born to him.

Mr Raison said he sympathized with the purpose of the amendment. At present an illegitimate child was unable to derive citizenship from his or her father in the same way as any other child. This was not a matter of principle but because of the uncertainties about the identity of the father that could exist.

When the Law Commission reported on recognizing paternity the matter could be considered again. Meanwhile, the Bill in its present form, substantially improved the status of the illegitimate child under Britain's citizenship laws.

The amendment was rejected by 281 votes to 231—Government majority, 50.

The report stage was concluded.

Whitelaw: proposals not racist

Mr Whitelaw, moving the third reading, said that revision of the nationality law had been long overdue.

The Bill would make an enormous improvement to the present situation. There was nothing racialist in the provisions for acquisition of British citizenship. Many of the people who would become British citizens belonged to the ethnic minority communities. The passage of the Bill would ensure that their position was put beyond doubt.

The Bill in no way altered the United Kingdom's special relationship with her dependencies. The moral and constitutional ties with them, both individually and collectively, remained as strong as ever.

It was quite wrong for people to see the Bill as the precursor of future changes in the area of voting and civic rights. If the Government had wished to change civic rights legislation it coul dhave done so without introducing a British Nationality Bill.

It was only a matter of ensuring that legislation which at present gave rights to Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Republic of Ireland no longer did so.

He could not rule out future changes in the law. But the Bill had no bearing on the matter, nor had he or the Government any plans to change the law in the areas which people appeared to have primarily in mind. This was an important matter for the minority communities and he was glad to be able toput the Government's position on record.

Significant amendments had been made to the Bill to allay the disquiet aroused in the ethnic minority communities. They had added a provision to confer on a child who had lived here for 10 years since birth an entitlement toregistration as a British citizen irrespective of the status of its parents.

The Government had shown its willingness to respond to the concern expressed by people from this country who had gone abroad to work and who were anxious that their children born abroad should not encounter difficulties over citizenship.

Amendments had been made to the Bill so that British citizens by descent in a much wider range of employment would be able to secure British citizenship for their children. They had extended the effect of the present arrangements for consular registration for five years after commencement.

We believe (he said) that th eBill ensures that British citizens by descent who have continuing links with the United Kingdom should have no dificulty in securing citizenship for their children born overseas.

Their major purpose was to create a British citizenship based on the principle that citizenship should carry with it the right of abode in this country. It should thereby provide a precise definition of those who belong to this country and were part of it.

The Bill was not racist and not sexist; it would end much of the uncertainty which had harmed race relations in the past.

Mr Hattersley said the next Labour Government would repeal the British Nationality Bill 1981 and replace it by more acceptable measures. It would be replaced by a measure that accepted that Britain was a multiracial society.

The Government had failed to take the opportunity provideds by the Bill to make amends to those East African Asians to whom the Government, the House and the country broke a promise in 1968.

These men and women were promised entry the Unmited Kingdom when the African states in which they lived became independent. He shared in the blame in breaking that promise. In this new British Nationality Bill it should have been possible to redeem the promise that had been broken.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L), said Liberals would vote against the Bill which increased the arbitrary power of the state over the individual. It would extend the administrative and secret powers of unnamed, unknown and unaccountable members of the Civil Service who would be making most of the decisions.

The Bill was racial in effect if not in intent. It had created a climate of opinion which pandered to people's worst prejudices while hypocritically pretending it was being introduced to ensure good relations.

The ugly side of the Conservative Party had been very much in evidence during the passage of the Bill.

Councils to review budgets

SCOTLAND

Local authorities in Scotland planned to spend about £180m at November, 1980, prices more than allowed for in the rate support grant settlement, and if the spending plans remained unchanged it would be appropriate to withhold £100m Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said in a statement on local authority expenditure.

Mr Bruce Millan, Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the Opposition would oppose the reduction all along the line. This was a sorry day for Scottish local government.

Mr Younger said that authorities had made provision for higher pay and price increases than allowed for in the cash limits and had thus budgeted for a cash excess of £235m above the amount in the rate support grant settlement. This was a totally unacceptable response to the Government's request for lower public expenditure in the interests not only of the national economy but also of ratepayers.

I propose a twofold response (he went on). First, I am asking all local authorities to undertake an immediate review of their budgets in order to reduce their spending to levels consistent with the Government's expenditure plans. Authorities are being asked to report to me by the end of July.

Secondly, I intend to take immediate action to reduce the rate support grant payable to certain local authorities who are planning to incur expenditure in 1981-82 which I am satisfied is excessive and unreasonable.

The extent to which I reduce rate support grant will depend upon the results of the revised budgets. If present spending plans were to remain unchanged, I consider that it would be appropriate to withhold £100m.

Local authorities' original budgets for 1980-81 suggested a planned excess of £83m (or 4.9 per cent) at November, 1979, prices above the figure provided for in the 1979 rate support grant settlement. I called for revised budgets from all authorities and their response was that the outturn would be significantly less than the budgets.

The provisional outturn figures for 1980-81 suggest that this did not happen and I have already expressed my deep concern.

I shall consider further action when final figures are available in the autumn, but I am bound to make clear now that it remains my intention to effect reductions in the rate support grant under my existing powers where I am satisfied that excessive and unreasonable expenditure has been incurred.

If the final figures for outturn continues to disclose an unacceptable excess, I intend to effect grant reductions in the range of £40m to £60m. The higher figure will be appropriate if the excess of £83m disclosed by the provisional returns is confirmed. I will give further consideration to the means of securing such a reduction and the possibility of part or all of it falling upon rate support grant for 1982-83.

Mr Millan (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab) said the fundamental reason for the course of local authority finance was the unrealistic expenditure figures set by the Government, the dishonest inflation figures and the cuts in Government grant.

Why Attorney General accepted guilty plea

RIPPER TRIAL

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, set out in a written reply his three reasons for agreeing that it would be right to accept a plea of guilty to manslaughter in the Sutcliffe trial.

The three reasons were: the medical evidence of four doctors of diminished responsibility was unanimous; on a plea to manslaughter the judge would be able to pass a sentence of life imprisonment and the doctors were agreed that whether Sutcliffe was convicted of murder or manslaughter, he should remain in custody for the rest of his natural life; and it would spare the families of the victims many days of extensive press coverage and detailed knowledge of the horrifying injuries.

Sir Michael Havers said that the Director of Public Prosecutions was aware that the defence were not proposing to contest that Sutcliffe killed the victims but that it was *proposed* to plead to manslaughter on the grounds of *diminished* responsibility.



Havers: Medical evidence unanimous

He had asked the DPP to discuss with him the evidence of four doctors. He and the DPP, with prosecuting counsel, had conferred with two doctors instructed by the prosecution as to the effect of the medical evidence.

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab) also asked whether the Attorney General would take action to stop the practice of plea bargaining in serious criminal and murder cases.

Sir Michael Havers: No. The term "Plea Bargaining" is frequently used by those who do not understand the various possibilities which arise when a defendant expresses a willingness to plead *guilty to a "lesser" offence to that with which he has been charged.*

In such circumstances the prosecution has the duty of deciding whether it is in the public interest that such a plea should be accepted.

For example, where a defendant is charged with wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm contrary to section 18 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861 (for which the maximum penalty is imprisonment for life) and is charged in the alternative with assault occasioning actual bodily harm contrary to section 47 of the same Act (for which the maximum penalty is five years imprisonment) a plea to the lesser offence could be accepted, subject to the agreement of the court, if the likely sentence would be no more than five years, whatever the verdict, in the knowledge that the court would reflect the seriousness of the harm done in the sentence imposed.

No question of plea bargaining arises where the charge is murder and the evidence of diminished responsibility which can be adduced by the Defence and is agreed by the Crown would clearly support a verdict of manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility.

In such circumstances it would be wrong as a matter of course to forbid the prosecution to accept a plea to manslaughter.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, in a written answer, said: The report of the review carried out by Mr Byford will not be published but it is my intention to make a statement about the outcome of the review when it has been completed.

Dispute leaves £3,250m outstanding

The latest available estimate of revenue temporarily lost to the Government as a result of the Civil Service dispute was between £3,250m and £3,500m, Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said at question time.

Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said it was a matter of some regret that a spokesman for the Civil Service unions had stated a fortnight ago that a deliberate purpose of the strike was to cause interest rates to be higher than they would otherwise be.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Education (Scotland) Bill, report stage. **Tuesday**: Employment and Training Bill, remaining stages. Education (Scotland) Bill third reading.

Wednesday: Education Bill, remaining stages. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill Lords amendments.

Thursday: Debate on effects of Government policies on rights, status and opportunities of women.

Friday: Private Members' Bills. Zoo (Licensing) (No 2) Bill, report stage. Tobacco Products (Control of Advertising, Sponsorship and Sales Promotion) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Transport Bill, committee.

Tuesday: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill, third reading. Forestry Bill.

Wednesday: Debate on need to combat race and sex discrimination. Indecent Displays (Control) Bill, committee.

Thursday: Transport Bill, committee

Friday: Transport Bill committee if completed on Thursday.

Polish church plea against Bydgoszcz strike call

From Dessa Trevisan, Warsaw, June 4

Poland's Roman Catholic Church today continued to play a moderating role begun by the late Cardinal Wyszynski by opposing the token strike called by the Bydgoszcz branch of Solidarity.

The local union is threatening to strike in protest against the authorities' failure to honour the March agreement to punish the policemen who beat up eight Solidarity members in the city.

Solidarity's national executive committee, which is meeting in Bydgoszcz today was addressed by Mgr. Jan Michalski, the Bishop of Gniezno, who had been sent by the Polish Episcopate to attend the meeting in an attempt to exert a moderating influence. He called upon the local union to refrain from such drastic measures as strikes which might hamper the Government's current endeavour to secure peace and calm during the preparations for the party congress.

He recalled that the Pope had ordered 30 days of national mourning for Cardinal Wyszynski which should be devoted to peaceful work.

The local Solidarity branch was threatening to call a strike for June 11 if the Government failed to identify the men responsible for the violence against its members.

Yesterday, Mr Mieczyslaw, the Deputy Prime Minister, met Mgr. Dabrowski, the secretary of the Polish Bishops' Conference and a communiqué issued afterwards stated that he told the Polish bishops of "dangerous new tensions" which were being provoked by "certain forces", which the statement deliberately omitted to identify.

The Bydgoszcz police violence had brought the country to the verge of a general strike. It was settled after church mediation. The local union branch has been waiting ever since for the authorities to present their report of their investigations. The union has several times urged the authorities to speed up the investigation and, more recently, contacted the vice-president of the Polish Parliament calling on him to make inquiries in the Ministry of Justice.

But, Mr Jerzy Bafia, the Minister of Justice, claimed that it was unable to identify those who were actually responsible for the Bydgoszcz violence.

The local union leaders have also invited Mr Stanslaw Mach, a Deputy Prime Minister, as well as Mr Bogislaw Wojernodzki, Poland's Attorney General, but, according to Solidarity, they failed to show up.

Another dispute which the church is also trying to settle with the authorities concerns the release of the remaining political prisoners and in particular, the release of four members of the Confederation of Independent Poland.

Meanwhile, another incident is said to have occurred in Rybnik in which a monument in a Soviet Army cemetery was damaged.

This is the fourth incident of its kind reported in the past few weeks. The Polish Government has denounced strongly these acts of hostility towards Soviet soldiers in Poland.

Big protest at US Navy base in Japan

Yokosuka, June 4.—More than 7,000 demonstrators shouting anti-American slogans and waving peace signs marched past a United States Navy base tonight to protest against the arrival of the American aircraft carrier Midway.

More than 3,000 riot police, armed with shields and fighting staves and backed by armoured buses and water cannon, guarded the base together with United States Marines and sailors.

The Midway is due to dock tomorrow at 9 am and more demonstrations are expected then.

Police said that there were no serious incidents during today's march.

As the anti-Midway rally went on, local officials continued last-minute efforts to have the 64,000-ton ship, returning from patrol in the Indian Ocean, dock at another port.

The carrier has been based at Yokosuka, in Tokyo Bay, for eight years but is now suspected by many Japanese of carrying nuclear weapons in violation of Japan's stand against harbouring such arms.

The suspicions arose after former United States Government officials said American ships had been carrying nuclear weapons to Japanese ports for the past 21 years.

The Midway carries three types of aircraft capable of dropping nuclear bombs.

Mr Kazuji Nagasu, Governor of the prefecture in which Yokosuka is situated, has sent telegrams to the Japanese and United States Governments asking for the Midway to go elsewhere.—Reuter.

☐ Tokyo.—The Japanese Government, urged by Washington to increase defence spending, today decided to set the ceiling on the increase in the 1982 defence budget over the current fiscal year at 7.5 per cent, Government sources said.

Increases in other fields of expenditure will be limited to less than 2 per cent under the Finance Ministry's belt-tightening policy.—Agence France-Presse.

Pope sees shooting victim

Mrs Anne Odre, who was wounded during the attack on the Pope three weeks ago, meeting him yesterday n his Vatican apartment. The Pope was discharged from hospital on Wednesday.

"Both of them were obviously very moved", Mrs Odre's doctor, Dr Federico Meneghini, who was also present, said. 'The Pope told her that she had suffered for him." They spoke mostly in Polish.

Mrs Odre, who is from Buffalo, New York State, was driven to the Vatican, and taken by wheelchair to the Pope's quarters. She was accompanied by her two children and a nurse.

The Pope and Mrs Odre' family are from Wadowice, Poland.

At the end of the audience, the Pope gave Mrs Odre and her daughter two rosaries.

The Pope had earlier had a restful first night at home.

His doctors agreed with him that his recovery would be quicker in his own apartment, but the problem remains of stopping him from working before he is well enough.

On Sunday, which is Pentecost, about 400 prelates from around the world are expected to attend ceremonies in St Peter's and St Mary Major, marking the 1,600th anniversary of the first Council of Constantinople and the 1,550th anniversary of the Council of Ephesus. The Pope is expected to listen to radio broadcasts of the ceremonies.

During the morning the Pope met Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican Secretary of State, and Cardinal Frantiesek Tomasek, the Archbishop of Prague, who had flown to Rome from Warsaw, where he attended the funeral of Cardinal Wyszynski, the Primate of Poland.

French left concludes cooperation pact

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, June 4

Cooperation between the French Socialist and Communist parties in the forthcoming general election and its aftermath were agreed today after only three days of negotiation.

The agreement reached amounts to more than a purely electoral arrangement but falls short of the "political accord" and even more of the policy agreement which the Communists had hoped for.

It leaves unsettled the key issue of Communist participation in a reshuffled Socialist Government. That decision will rest solely with President Mitterrand, and will probably be taken in the light of the Communist performance in the election.

The two parties agreed to withdraw the runner-up in favour of the candidate leading the poll for the left after the first round on June 14 before the decisive one on June 21. But they have gone beyond this. The text of the agreement refers to a "coherent and lasting majority determined to cooperate in every way in the application of the new policy chosen by French men and women in electing François Mitterrand to the presidency."

The text also refers to a number of policy issues on which the two parties converged. These are mainly concerned with social policy, such as both immediate and long-term measures against unemployment and the gradual introduction of a 35-hour week, and a fifth week of paid holidays. They also include the adoption of proportional representation, the election of regional assemblies by universal suffrage, decentralization and disarmament.

But there are a number of other issues of great importance to the Socialists, on which plainly they could not bring the Communists to see eye to eye. These are the Camp David agreements in the Middle East, Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Poland, and the stationing of Soviet SS20 medium-range missiles in Eastern Europe.

In their eagerness to climb on to the Socialist bandwagon before the election, the Communists have been only too ready to gloss over these and other differences. But the Socialists have such bitter memories of their treatment at the hands of their erstwhile allies after the breakdown in the autumn of 1977 of the Union of the Left, that they now insist on an unambiguous formulation before committing themselves to anything in the future.

The Socialists therefore plan to publish a memorandum setting out the remaining points of difference between the two parties, including the scope and rhythm of nationalization, for use as a basis for the discussions which will take place after the election on the appointment of Communist ministers.

An analysis of the polling in the first ballot of the presidential election on April 26, when the Communists lost one million voters, shows that in 43 of the 86 constituences held by them, M Mitterrand came ahead of M Georges Marchais, the Communist Secretary-General.

In any case, they are not committing themselves in advance to any electoral presence where a prominent Communist candidate is in serious difficulty. Today's agreement provides for an examination of these cases between the two ballots.

A projection on the basis of a poll carried out by the Louis-Harris France institute for this week's issue of the news magazine *L'Express* shows that the Socialists might even win 248 seats in the new Assembly, or two more than the absolute majority.

The poll gives the left as a whole 54 per cent of voting intentions including 32 for the Socialists, 17—or two more than on April 26—for the Communists.

The dilemma for the Socialists is whether it is preferable to have Communists in the Government, and compel them to assume their share of responsibility, or to keep them out and avoid a blow to confidence in business and financial circles.

Senate row over Reagan nominee

From David Cross
Washington, June 4

Mr Ernest Lefever, the conservative academic who has become President Reagan's most controversial nominee to a senior post in the United States Government, today faced further cross-examination about his views on human rights.

Mr Lefever, who is the President's choice for the senior human rights post in the State Department, was recalled unexpectedly earlier this week to be questioned by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, most of whose members are believed to oppose his nomination.

In a closed session Mr Lefever was seeking to explain the relationship between a Washington lobbying group he runs and the Nestlé company. He has been accused of a possible conflict of interest, particularly since the Reagan administration voted against an international code to regulate the marketing of breast-milk substitutes (Nestlé is a manufactures) in poor countries.

Democratic members of the committee were also expected to question Mr Lefever about his views on race relations. Two of his brothers said he once supported a theory that blacks were genetically inferior to whites. Mr Lefever has already denied this.

The ontroversy whih has swirled carocund Mr Lefever since the first Congressional hearing last onth has led Senator Howard Baker, the Republican leader of the Senate, to tell the Admministration that final approval of the noination will probably be a long, tough fight.

"It will be a difficult struggle, but I believe it's 'winnable', Senator Baker said.

Warsaw's verbal battle divides neighbours

By Our Foreign Staff

During this week's intensification of the war of words between Warsaw and Moscow, Poland's neighbours have been divided into two camps—the strident and the silent.

Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Bulgaria, whose assertion that "the activity of anti-socialist forces is increasing in Poland" was given wide circulation in the Soviet Union yesterday, have all taken a firm position in support of Moscow

Poland's other neighbours have stayed out of the conflict, with the exception of Hungary where a government official said his party's main interest was to see that Poland found a political answer

But he added that there could be "no status quo in Europe without the existence of a socialist Poland".

In East Germany, the official newspaper *Neues Deutschland* attacked "counter-revolutionary forces" in Poland in an article reprinted by all other East German newspapers and by *Pravda*.

Referring to foreign secret services' alleged involvement in Poland, a dispatch datelined Warsaw by ADN, the East German news agency, said: "At a press conference at the Polish Ministry of the Interior attention was drawn to documents of Western espionage centres making it clear that Poland has never been so important for them as now."

Reports this week quoted Vasil Bilak, a member of the Czechoslovak Praesidium, as saying that "counter-revolutionary forces could boast only of having brought Poland in 10 months and with the aid of Solidarity to the brink of economic catastrophe and had plunged it into deep political insecurity".



Leading with his chin: An American apiarist allows bees to swarm on him and form a "beard".

Stage hand guilty of opera killing

From Michael Leapman
New York, June 4

Mr Craig Crimmins, a former stage hand at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York's Lmciln Centre, was found guilty here today of murdering Mrs Helen Mintiks, a violinist, in the Opera House last July. After deliberating for more than a day, the jury found him guilty of "felony murder" but not guilty of intentional murder.

Felony murder is a murder committed during or after the commission of another crime, in this case attempted rape. The maximum penalty is a prison term of 25 years to life.

Mrs Mintiks died after being kicked from the roof of the Opera House down an air shaft during an interval in a performance by the Berlin Ballet. The prosecution said that Mr Crimmins had ripped her clothes from her, gagged her and tried to rape her

During the trial, which received detailed publicity here, the prosecution based their case on a videotaped statement in which Mr Crimmins admitted the crime. The defence said that he was simple-minded and had been coerced into making the statement by the police

In reaching their verdict the jury seem to have concluded that Mr Crimmins had not originally intended to kill

New inquiry into Spanish siege mystery

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, June 4

An investigating magistrate today began a fresh attempt to try to solve the deepening mystery surrounding the Barcelona bank siege which the Spanish Prime Minister told Parliament last week was part of a series of efforts by extreme right-wing elements to unsettle democracy.

The magistrate is questioning the nine men detained after the siege, who were brought yesterday to Madrid after the police failed in 10 days of interrogations, under the anti-terrorism law to produce a convincing account of the incident.

The results of the police interrogations, which Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, promised in Parliament last week would soon lead to more information on those who mounted the siege, are a severe embarrassment for the already hard-pressed Government.

Emergency declared after Sri Lanka polling

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo, June 4

A state of emergency came into force throughout Sri Lanka at 5 pm today an hour after polling in elections for development councils in 17 districts closed. There will be no curfew except in the Tamil-speaking northern province where a state of emergency and curfew were proclaimed on Tuesday because of tension and disorder that broke out after a police sergeant was killed and two others injured.

Mobilization of volunteer units of the armed forces is in progress and censorship of news relating to events in the north was introduced on Tuesday.

Mr Appapillai Amirthalingham, the leader of the Opposition in Parliament who is also leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front, was taken into protective custody early today but was later released on the orders of President Jayewardene.

Police at some stations in the north are reported to have refused to provide escorts for election staff. A statement issued by the presidential secretariat said that the police sergeant who was killed on Sunday and the two who were injured belonged to the Sinhalese Tamil and Muslim communities. The statement added that attempts had been made to create disorder and thus force a postponement of the elections that were scheduled for today.

The customary evening and night power cuts were relaxed today to enable the votes to be counted.

POLICE BREAK UP HUNGER STRIKE

Santiago, June 4.—Thirty armed police forcibly removed nine students last night from a cathedral where they began a hunger strike 10 days ago to protest "about interference" in Chile's universities, relatives said.

The four women and five men had demanded that the military government should disband secret police squads on the campus and end the practice of banishing dissident students for three-month periods of exile in Chile.—UPI.

Smith party tries to change its image

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, June 4

The Rhodesian Front (RF), the party which declared UDI and whose name became a byword for opposition to change, is attempting to rejuvenate its image as it approaches two crucial by-elections for white roll seats.

After months of criticism from white Zimbabweans the party meets this weekend to adopt a new name "in keeping with the changes in the country" and to consider policies to face the challenge posed by a breakaway faction.

With the closure today of candidate nominations for the second of the polls it emerged that the by-elections would be a straight contest between the candidates of the RF and the Democratic Party, which was formed in April by a former Rhodesian Front MP and stands on a policy of broad cooperation with Mr Robert Mugabe's Government.

Dr Ahrn Palley, a former Independent MP, who urged the ruling Zanu (PF) party to field a candidate in the Borrowdale constituency and then said he would stand as an Independent, announced today that he would not be standing in order to prevent splitting the anti-RF vote.

The second by-election is in the Mazoe-Mtoko white roll seat.

Zanu (PF) will be watching the by-elections with keen interest. A senior member of the Government recently said that although there were signs across the country that it was gaining white support, the party believed that it was too early to put up candidates in white seats.

But, he said, it regarded the by-election as an important test

Sensing that it faces a threat in the by-elections, the RF is expected to adopt a generally more cooperative approach to the Government.

EEC aim to help poor states at expense of rich

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, June 4

The overall effect of EEC policies should be to transfer resources from the rich to the less well off member states but governments cannot expect this to be immediately reflected in their net budgetary balances.

This emerged here today as one of the basic principles on which the European Commission will be drawing up its proposals for reforming the EEC's finances. They should be presented to member states at the end of this month.

These proposals, which will also include recommendations for the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, are to be finalized at a special meeting of the Commission, under Mr Gaston Thorn, its president, on June 19 and 20, it was learnt here.

Mr Thorn and his colleagues have yet to decide whether to submit their proposals for preliminary discussion by EEC Foreign Ministers on June 22 and 23, or to submit them direct to heads of government at their spring summit meeting here on June 29 and 30.

The direction in which the Commission's thinking is moving offers some support for the view expressed in the Hague yesterday by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that poor countries should do better financially out of the EEC than rich ones.

There appears to be serious doubt inside the Commission, however, about how much can be done by means of the kind of special mechanism called for by Sir Geoffrey to correct the budget balances and deficits of member-states in order to reflect their relative wealth.

The Commission appears to believe that in the long run the better distribution of wealth called for by Sir Geoffrey can only be achieved by spending more on non-agricultural policies that would benefit a country like Britain with its small farming sector.

But the Commission feels that even if agriculture is made more competitive—and less in need of expensive subsidy—there will still be insufficient revenue to finance these new policies under present restraints for more than three to five years.

That means that the present 1 per cent limit on the rate at which value added tax can be levied to provide EEC budget revenue must eventually be raised.

The British view, by contrast, is that the Common Agricultural Policy ceiling must be maintained, since its removal would be more likely to lead to a further uncontrolled increase in agricultural spending.

The broad shape of the Commission's ideas for reform of the agricultural policy are also beginning to emerge. There are three main elements.

The first is that the EEC should aim, by limiting price increases, to bring the prices paid to Community farmers into line with generally lower world food prices.

Secondly, the Commission is overall "production objectives" should be fixed for different products, with price support for quantities produced above this level being strictly limited or abolished.

At present farmers are generally guaranteed minimum prices, paid for by the EEC budget, for unlimited output. This open-ended commitment, coupled with the high price level, has produced substantial surpluses most of which have to be exported with heavy subsidies.

Third, the commission thinks that poor farmers, who would not be able to survive if prices were fixed at more realistic levels based on market demand, will need income supplements, possibly paid directly by their governments under the supervision of Brussels.

Police use whips on high school protesters

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, June 4

For the second day running violence erupted in Johannesburg's Coloured (mixed race) areas today as the police, with dogs and wielding whips and batons attacked high school pupils demonstrating over the detention of a student leader.

According to teachers, the police were no less ferocious than yesterday when they attacked the Coloured children despite calls by white opposition and Coloured political leaders for an urgent investigation into their over-reaction.

Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Police, said today that he was calling for detailed reports of the police action. But he stated: "Schoolchildren who do not obey requests from the police and throw stones or petrol bombs at my police must not expect any leniency. If they do not obey requests they must not expect any sympathy from me."

Today, high schools in the Coloured suburbs of Westbury, Coronationville and Newclare, where violence broke out yesterday, were virtually deserted. Most parents kept their children away from school in fear of further clashes with the police.

But at the Riverlea high school 200 students confronted the police and, according to a police statement, began stoning vehicles and giving black power salutes.

Riot police under the command of Brigadier Theuns Swanepoel moved in with dogs, whips and teargas.

Mr Sarah Davids, a teacher, said: "They beat the children when they were *outside* the classrooms so they ran inside and when they were inside they beat them to go out again. These people are animals. The children were not doing anything."

A police statement said a detachment of riot police had moved into the Riverlea area and action was taken to disperse the gathering there.

A 15-year-old boy was injured when he was hit in the neck by a teargas canister and a girl was badly bruised about the head after being whipped while she lay helpless on the ground. Another girl, aged 16, had an epileptic fit after being overcome by teargas.

Mr August Snel, the principal of the Riverlea school, said that some of his pupils had been boycotting classes and were standing peacefully in the school yard when the riot police burst on to school property and started chasing the children with dogs.

The Afrikaans language Johannesburg newspaper *Beeld* today quoted Brigadier Gert Kruger, divisional commissioner of police, as saying that if protest marches and demonstrations continued the police would retaliate even harder.

"It is a pity about the innocent being affected in the process but the police cannot allow these things to carry on incessantly," he was quoted as saying.

The lead story in *Beeld* yesterday was an announcement that the police are to be given a pay rise.

The Johannesburg *Star* today cautioned the police against totally estranging the Coloured population "whose favour the Government is trying desperately to win." It described police conduct as "violent over-reaction."

The Johannesburg *Rand Daily Mail*, traditionally the most anti-government of South African newspapers which is usually quick to comment about authoritarian excesses, has not so far published its views.

At the weekend, Mr Allister Sparks, its editor, was dismissed in a move which is being interpreted locally as an attempt to give the outspoken *Rand Daily Mail* a more pragmatic and more marketable image in line with the apartheid reforms that Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, has promised.

Well met in Sinai: President Sadat in jovial mood yesterday when he and Mr Begin met near Ofira.

Washington intensifies Middle East action

From David Cross, Washington, June 4

President Reagan will meet a number of Middle Eastern leaders in Washington during the next few months, the White House announced today. They will include President Sadat of Egypt.

A formal announcement said that President Sadat had accepted an invitation to come here on August 5 and 6 and that Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, had tentatively agreed to talks on September 9 and 10. If Mr Begin is defeated during the forthcoming Israeli general elections, the invitation will go to his successor.

Other leaders expected to visit Washington before the end of the year include King Husain of Jordan on November 2 and 3, and King Khalid of Saudi Arabia at a date still to be specified.

Mr Raegan's developing Middle East policy, has been marking time somewhat in recent weeks, but after the Israeli elections, his foreign policy advisers are expected to decide how to approach the Camp David peace process as well as what is seen as Soviet adventurism.

Meanwhile, the State Department announced today that Mr Philip Habib, the President's special Middle East envoy, would be leaving Washington tomorrow to resume his Lebanese peace mission. His travels would take him first to Europe and then back to the Middle East early next week, a spokesman said.

He added that the four countries among which Mr Habib shuttled last month—Lebanon, Israel, Syria and Saudi Arabia—had all indicated that Mr Habib was welcome back for further talks.

The envoy, who returned here last week after three weeks of delicate diplomacy in the Middle East, is trying to defuse a threatened confrontation between Israel and Syria in Lebanon. During his short stay in Washington he has briefed President Reagan, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and other senior Administration and Congressional leaders.

The spokesman said that the next round of Mr Habib's travels were "open-ended". Mr Haig acknowledged earlier this week, however, that the envoy's peace mission could not go on for ever.

Troops use tear gas on pupils

Israeli soldiers used tear gas today to quell violent demonstrations by Arab secondary school pupils in Ramallah and El Bireh, twin cities north of Jerusalem (Moshe Brilliant writes). Eight pupils of the El Bireh girls' secondary school were treated in hospital.

Arab sources said the demonstrations had been called to mark the fourteenth anniversary tomorrow of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank.

However the sources also said that bitterness in the Arab community was heightened by the visit of President Sadat to Ophira which the Palestinians feared would lead to an alliance between Egypt and Israel at the expense of the Palestinians

The Arabs said troops burst into the yard of the El Bireh girls' school to break up a demonstration but the military command claimed the young women had gone out into the streets where they stoned soldiers and cursed them.

In Ramallah, the demonstrators were said to have stoned traffic

Bangladesh leader's pledge on democracy

From Trevor Fishlock
Dacca, June 4

In a shaking but brave voice, Mr Justice Abdus Sattar, the acting President of Bangladesh, tonight expressed the Government's determination to maintain the democratic process, to foil any conspiracy to upset it and to discover the truth about the killing of President Zia.

He also said that an army investigation will find out how General Abul Manzur, the leader of the ill-fated Chittagong rebellion met his death while in custody two days after the President was murdered.

The official version is that General Manzur fled to the Chittagong hills when support for his rebellion evaporated. He was caught by the police and taken under guard towards the Chittagong army base. On the way the party was attacked by "agitated armed people", said to be villagers, and General Manzur was fatally wounded. Two of his fellow officers were killed on the spot.

Mr Sattar told reporters that a mob had surrounded the arrested men. "You can well understand the feeling that was aroused. It is difficult when tempers are high. We wish General Manzur were alive. We would have tried him according to law."

He rejected a report that General Manzur's wife and three children had also been killed. "I can assure you they are safe."

Asked about misgivings expressed in Parliament that the investigation into the rebellion in parts of the Army would be conducted by the Army itself, Mr Sattar replied: "Everything happened in the Army and we must find out how and why it happened. I have full confidence in the armed forces and I can assure you no injustice will be done to anybody."

He indicated that the inquiry, which has already started, would investigate whether there was any wider conspiracy behind the Manzur rebellion.

Mr Sattar is 74, and suffers from diabetes and high blood pressure.

On Saturday morning, he was called from his hospital bed to head the Government. "I was woken up and I was so dazed I did not know what to say. I was in a very bad state of health and I have not been able to recover from the shock."

Tears glistened in his eyes as he added: "President Zia was a true friend. He was like my son. I loved him because he was trying to build a small country *in a better way.*"

He and the Government would adhere *strictly* to the Bangladesh constitution and were committed to preserving democracy.

Because of his failing health he would not be a candidate in the presidential election which has to be held by the end of November.

Government officials expect the military tribunal investigating President Zia's murder to take up to two *months* to complete its work.

The court-martial trial of officers involved with General Manzur will begin soon and is expected to be fairly brief. The Government has named 17 officers who are held in Chittagong. No civilian has been detained.

US HONOURS WALLENBERG

Washington, June 4.—The State Department today endorsed honorary American citizenship on the missing Sweddish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, whom the Russians say died in prison in 1947.

"The conferral of honorary United States citizenship on Wallenberg would serve to underscore the seriousness with which the American Government and people view Soviet behaviour in the Wallenberg case," the department said.

Mr Wallenberg was arrested when the Red Army captured Budapest in January, 1945. Although Soviet officials have repeatedly insisted that he died in prison, several unconfirmed reports have reached the West in recent years claiming he has been seen in Russian labour camps.—AP and UPI.

Foreign Office denies rift over Community budget

By David Spanier, Political Correspondent

The Foreign Office has reacted sharply to the claim that it had a difference of opinion with the Treasury over restructuring the European Community budget, as reported in *The Times* yesterday.

There was no foundation for the suggestion, a Foreign Office spokesman said, emphasizing that the speech on budget reform given by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the Hague on Wednesday, represented "a full statement of the Government's approach."

The whole idea of a disagreement rested on a single remark by a senior Treasury official, the spokesman said. Commenting that he did not see why Britain should be a net contributor to the Community budget, the official was reported as adding: "At least the Treasury does not." The remark was no more than "natural official prudence," he said and in fact the speech was the agreed result of very careful discussions in Whitehall.

The reform of the budget will be the key issue of the British presidency of the EEC during the second half of this year, which explains the Foreign Office's concern yesterday to deny any difference of approach within British ranks. Sir Geoffrey Howe's speech was conceived not as a formal proposal—which is the task of the Brussels Commission—but as an attempt to set out the British view in a general way.

The Hague was chosen as an appropriate venue for such a statement, because the Dutch are in the chair of the Council of Ministers at the moment. Once Britain takes over the presidency it will be, in a sense, harder for senior ministers to state their views in such an open way.

E Germany hits back at Begin

Berlin, June 4.—East Germany reacted angrily today to the attacks on the German nation by Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and accused him of pursuing Hitlerite policies.

"The Government in Tel Aviv does not have the least right to use the Jewish victims of German Fascism as an excuse for its policies", Herr Karl-Eduard von Schnitzler, East Berlin's chief political commentator, wrote in the foreign policy weekly *Horizont*.

He said that all Israeli Governments had pursued occupation policies based on the same "Fascist lies" used by Hitler.

"They have carried out an extermination policy against the Palestinians internally and a campaig of annihilation beyond their borders," Herr von Schnitzler wrote.

Although he did not refer directly to Mr Begin's attacks on Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and the German nation as a whole, the East German commentator alluded to them several times and made clear the article was ent as a rebuff.

The Israeli leader has repeatedly accused Herr Schmidt of forgetting the Nazi murder of six million Jews.

Mr Begin has not mentioned East Germany in his statement but today's article indicated that the Communist state also felt offended.

Herr von Schnitzler said all Israeli pri emministers from the late David Ben Gurion to Mr Begin had acted according to the "fascist lies of a people without living space".

"They have carried out and are still carrying out theft of land under the motto 'blood and soil'," he added

These two slogans Volk Ohne Raum and Blut und Boden in the German original) were used by Hitler to justify the annexation of large parts of Eastern Europe.—Reuter.

Threat to country's unity

Poll highlights Israel's racial rift

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, June 4

The deep ethnic divisions between European and Oriental Jews which have long threatened the unity of Israel are being emphasized to an unprecedented, and many would claim dangerous, degree because of the bitter election campaign.

For the first time in Israel's 33-year history, voters have the opportunity of supporting a specifically Sephardi or Oriental party which stands a real chance of exercising political power in the Knesset.

The result has been to focus attention on the position of the Oriental Jews, who make up 55 per cent of the population but, because of widespread under-privilege, are still widely referred to as "The Second Israel".

Ironically, the catalyst for the new political development, potentially one of the most significant in recent years, was a corruption trial which ended last month with the acquittal of Mr Aharon Abuhatzeira, the Moroccan-born Minister for Religious Affairs.

From the outset, the Minister said the charges against him were the result of a deliberate plot by Ashkenazi or European Jews against the Sephardi community—of which he is one of the most prominent members. The charge had reflected the prejudice in Israeli society which had left the majority of Orientals as second-class citizens who saw their position as similar to that of American blacks.

Before the verdict, Mr Nessim Gaon, the millionaire president of the influential World Sephardi Federation, gave a warning: "The feeling that there is discrimination, as well as the apparent evidence that within Israel there are two societies, separate and unequal, has reached a psychological boiling-point.

"The manner in which the Abuhatzeira affair was handled has ignited a long simmering feeling of alienation and frustration among the Sephardi community."

Subsequently, it has emerged that the Zurich-based Mr Gaon is one of the main financial backers of Mr Abuhatzeira's new Oriental Party, called Tami, a Hebrew acronym meaning "movement for Israel's tradition".

The last-minute formation of an ethnic party of real political clout shocked the Israeli political establishment, most of whose leading members have been anxious to play down the divisions in Israeli society which immediately become obvious to outsiders arriving here.

The reaction of Mr Abba Eban, the Shadow Foreign Minister, and one of the most European-oriented of all Israel's leading political figures, was typical: "In both national and historic terms, I deplore the development. Imagine this kind of sectarianism in other aspects of Israeli life. The Labour Party has always stood against sectarianism."

The majority of Oriental Jews arrived in Israel from African and Middle Eastern countries in the 1950s. They came from poor, pious and often primitive environments, and in many cases found it extremely hard to adapt to the realities of a modern, secular, industrialized Israel.

Many were virtually banished to new, ill-equipped and inhospitable development towns in the Negev and Galilee, where educational facilities were poor. Others were concentrated in overcrowded, and unsightly slums on the outskirts of Tel Aviv and in Jerusalem's notorious Katamon district.

Although living conditions have improved considerably since those early days, prejudice and lack of opportunity remain.

The comparison with American blacks was deliberately reinforced in 1971, when a number of young Oriental militants formed a group called "The Black Panthers", and set out to highlight the social problems of their community. This led to occasional street violence.

For some time, outside observers have been predicting the establishment of a new party based on Israel's ethnic divisions, but until the formation of Tami there was a widespread belief that it would probably end up on the far fringes of politics, like all previous attempts to form an Oriental party.

The social divisions in Israel have been growing more apparent over the past seven years during which there has been no Middle East war to forge unity across the communal divide.

As well as the growth of Oriental pressure groups formed to protest against poor housing and other social evils, there has also been a recent emergence of a so-called "Sephardi consciousness" designed to emphasize the basic differences in Israeli society.

As one young, Algerian-born Israeli explained: "We want to know who we are. We are returning to our local dishes. In our dress, we want to be less European. We speak Arabic more freely, almost as a provocation. We are learning to have literature, poetry and music."

Now they also have a political party and the seeds have been sown for further division in Israeli society, which is already struggling to cope with a growing, and sometimes violent, split between religious and non-religious Jews.

Greek police search for two sisters

From Mario Modiano
Athens, June 4

Athens security police announced today that they wished to interview two Greek sisters in connexion with the fires that destroyed two department stores in central Athens.

The police appealed to the public for information on the whereabouts of the two sisters because the investigation had produced "serious indications" of culpability, not only for this week's arson, but also for two other destructive fires last December. A search of their house had yielded "incriminating material", the police added.

The security services seem to be focusing their attention on suspects from extreme left or anarchist groups. Some 15 of them were rounded up and interrogated in the presence of the public prosecutor. Five were later released.

A panel of expert criminologists scanned the waterlogged debris of the two department stores today in search of telltale clues. The investigation is considering the possibility that heat-radiating aluminium bombs may have been used.

At least four different self-styled terrorist organizations have so far claimed responsibility

Date set for Canada press case

From John Best
Ottawa, June 4

An Ontario provincial court judge has set September 28 as the date for preliminary hearings on monopoly charges against Canada's two largest newspaper chains.

Thomson Newspapers and Southam Inc were charged last month with seven counts of conspiracy and monopoly. The charges came after a Government investigation of moves last summer that ended competition between Thomson Newspapers and Southam Inc in a number of Canadian cities.

Mr Justice Fred McMahon ordered a Southam vice-president, Mr William Carradine, to appear on June 24 to set a date for his trial on a separate charge of impeding the investigation.

Mr Carradine is accused of "tearing, mutilating and attempting to destroy and attempting to hide documents".

On August 27 Thomson Newspapers closed the *Ottawa Journal* and Southam Inc closed the *Winnipeg Tribune*. This left the Southam-owned *Citizen* in Ottawa and the Thomson-owned *Winnipeg Free Press* without English-language daily competition in those citie

WEST GERMAN 'WAS CIA SPY'

Berlin, June 4.—An East German military court sentenced a West German to life imprisonment today for spying for the CIA, the official East German news agency reported.

It said that Dieter Vogel, a former member of the West German Luftwaffe, had acted as "recruiter, paymaster and longtime agent for the CIA."

The agency added: "His court hearing uncovered the longtime, planned, systematic and unscrupulous machinery of the CIA as well as the former workings of the CIA and the West German secret service against the German democratic republic."

Difficulties loom over Ottawa summit

From John Best, Ottawa, June 4

With a new, left-wing president in power in France, and a new, right-wing president installed in the United States, Western leaders may find it difficult to achieve a coordinated economic strategy when they meet in Ottawa next month.

The summit will bring together the political leaders of Canada, Britain, France, Italy, Japan, West Germany and the United States for three days of discussions on July 19 to 21.

The spotlight will be on President François Mitterrand, the newly elected Socialist French head of state and on President Reagan. Their economic views could hardly be farther apart.

M Mitterrand stands for increased state intervention, Mr Reagan for diminishing the role of the state and giving private enterprise more room to breathe.

It is recognized that room for accommodation exists, "but there are differences of national policies on this occasion which will make accommodation a little more difficult", the Canadian official said. "It is going to be a difficult summit."

With the problem of achieving agreement on economic tactics looming so large, summit participants are expected to set their sights on a more modest objective: to "harmonize" the policies of their governments so that they do not hinder one another. The emphasis would be on mutual adjustment and sensitivity.

Although so-called macro-economic questions will come in for close attention, *as they have* done at each of these yearly summits going back to Rambouillet in 1975, political issues are certain to be more prominent than ever before.

Issues that are certain to come in for a fair amount of attention at the summit are North-South relations and international development assistance, but for how much is a matter for conjecture. The Venice summit last year directed that this one should pay particular attention to North-South relations. However, because the Western world's own economies are in such deep trouble at present, and East-West relations in such tatters, other preoccupations may shunt the matter aside to some extent. The hope is that, at least, the summit leaders will signal their determination that there will be no backsliding on aid to underdeveloped countries.

Another clear message likely *to come out of the summit is* that the leading Western economic powers remain dtermined to stick to the commitments made at the Tokyo summit, two years ago, to reduce substantially their consumption of oil.

Italy tots up the cost of masonic scandal

From Peter Nichols, Rome, June 4

Signor Bettino Craxi, the socialist leader, said today after talking with Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the Prime Minister-Designate, that the country needed "a higher degree of governability".

Their talks were a week after Signor Forlani had been invited by President Pertini to try and form a new Government after the masonic scandal which swept away his last coalition. The scandal is less virulent today in terms of revelations but the extent of the damage caused is becoming clearer.

The Milan *Corriere della Sera*, Italy's best known newspaper, failed to appear today because of a strike due, in part, to the P2 masonic affair.

The newspaper is in the difficult position of having had Signor Franco di Bella, its editor, listed as a member of the P2 group as well as other leading writers while the financier, Signor Roberto Calvi, who recently acquired a large share in the ownership, was not only in the P2 lists but is also being held in prison accused of *the illegal export of currency.*

Two prefects and the police chiefs of four cities have been obliged to take indefinite leave.

The police leaders are those in Palermo, Treviso, Salerno and Cagliari while the prefects, the representatives of state in the provines, are those of Pavia and Brescia.

About a dozen officials of the secret services have also been sent on holiday and a group of ous ministries are expected to civil servants working in varileave their jobs for what is being described at the moment, as a temporary period.

Admiral Giovanni Torrisi, head of the armed forces, has already departed on holiday because his name was in the P2 lists—so have the two heads of the counter-intelligence services along with the civilian coordinator of intelligence.

Finally, the Government was brought down when the names of two ministers appeared in the lists while a third, Senator Adolfo Sarti, the Minister of Justice, resigned a few days earlier because investigators found his application to join the P2 group.

To the suspensions and resignations must be added the strictures of the Bank of Italy on the failure of the politicians to deal adequately with the country's economic diffculties and the repeated complaints that a notable diplomatic role for Italy had been stopped in its tracks by the absence of a government.

PACIFIST SURRENDERS IN FRANCE

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, June 4

M Patrick Gervasoni, who has been one of the leaders of the French conscientious objector movement since he refused to answer his call-up in 1972, gave himself up to border police at Jeumont in the north today in the hope that the new socialist Government will grant him amnesty.

M Gervasoni, aged 30, has been on the run from military police since he was given an eight-month sentence for desertion in 1975. In 1979 he left France, where he had been living in hiding and went to the Netherlands and on to Denmark and then Iceland. He was expelled from there and returned to Copenhagen to live.

After the victory of President Mitterrand he obtained a Laissez-passer from the French consul in Copenhagen to return to France and then contacted about 30 other French deserters in the Netherlands and Denmark to sign a petition asking for amnesty before returning to France today.

Unusually for this type of case he has not been kept in custody. The border police have accepted his word of honour to report to his unit, the 73rd Divisional Group in Marseille, so that he can stand trial for desertion.

Journalists fight Hersant's control over 'Le Figaro'

From Ian Murray, Paris, June 4

A court official has been authorized to find out if M Robert Hersant, the proprietor of *Le Figaro*, has a properly recognized press card. The investigation is in response to legal moves initiated by journalists on the newspaper to ensure that the statutes of *Le Figaro* are being properly observed.

The statutes stipulate that the president and one other representative of the five-member editorial board must be a journalist. M Hersant, who gives his profession in France's *Who's Who* as "publisher", is the current president of the board.

As president he not only has the right to choose the editor of the newspaper, but he can also fix the paper's editorial line.

Journalists at *Le Figaro* have been increasingly unhappy about what they see as a lack of objectivity in the newspaper's reporting. Shortly after the election of President Mitterrand they passed a resolution declaring their "unchangeable attachment to editorial independence vis-a-vis the authorities" and emphasizing that the paper owed its readers respect for their convictions, as well as a comprehensive news service.

The journalists then called for a stricter control in the compilation of political news and for scrupulous respect for the facts. There was too much at stake to confuse ideology with moral obligations, they insisted.

The Hersant group replied with a statement promising that *Le Figaro* was to become "a great national opposition daily" which would be moderate and liberal, in line with the views of its readers.

The journalists, however, feel that as president of the editorial board M Hersant has too much influence on the content of the newspaper and they have therefore started the legal proceedings in an attempt to have him removed from the presidency.

Another dispute over the political content of a publication, this time the women's magazine *Jacinthe*, has led to a letter of resignation from Mme Françoise de L'homme, its editor.

The June issue of the magazine, which has a circulation of 172,000, carried a four-page supplement urging readers to reject "the Socialist-Communist coalition". Mme de L'Homme was unaware of the inserted supplement until the magazine appeared.

Russia puts more pressure on Bonn over missiles

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, June 4

A high-ranking Soviet delegation left Bonn today after carrying forward a subtle campaign to turn West Germans against Nato's new medium-range nuclear missiles.

Their visit was seen here as part of a two-pronged effort to convince Social Democratic politicians that there is a negotiable alternative to stationing the missiles and to whip up opposition to the weapons among public opinion.

The tactics include propaganda outpouring in the Soviet press, meetings between Soviet officials and Social Democratic politicians who are particularly interested in détente, and efforts by the West German Communist Party to spur on the growing pacifist movement.

The aim is to prevent the deployment, in a couple of years, of new Pershing II and cruise missiles to redress the military balance which has been upset by the Russians stationing three-headed SS20 missiles in Eastern Europe.

A close associate of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, says that their purpose seems to be of such high priority that Moscow appears to have accepted the risk it carries. For if West Germany backed out of the missile plan, Herr Schmidt could resign, the Social Democratic Government would fall and be replaced by the Christian Democrats who are more firmly pro-missiles and pro-American than the present government.

The new offensive started after the Chancellor's recent visit to Washington and the vote in support of the missiles in the Bundestag. The two events showed the Chancellor firmly committed to the new American leadership and the Bundestag to the missiles plan, albeit with some opposition from Herr Schmidt's own party.

The Soviet Union reacted with the sharpest attacks against a West German Chancellor for a decade. But it is believed here that Tass and *Pravda* were not so much addressing the Chancellor as his party.

At the same time arrangements were made for two chief architects of the Government's détente policy, Herr Willy Brandt, the Social Democrats' chairman and Herr Egon Bahr, to visit Moscow. Both are sceptical of the missiles plan.

The delegation, headed by Mr Boris Ponomaryov, secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, had talks in Bonn with Government and Social Democratic politicians, at which the missiles were a central theme.

A member of the delegation, Mr Vadim Zagladin, in a newspaper interview warned West Germans that they, not the Americans, would be the first target in a nuclear war.

Officially the delegation was here for the West German Communist Party congress which voted at the weekend to go on fighting the missiles plan.

An organization called the Deutsche Friedens-Union, regarded by the security services as communist-influenced, organized a meeting of left-wingers, ecologists, pacifists, churchmen and others called the Krefeld Forum. They launched an appeal to the Government against the missiles which by mid-May had been signed by 800,000 people.

One point on which both left and right are agreed is that the Communists would not have had the remotest chance if the public feelings against the missiles had not been so powerful.



Mother Teresa, who won the Nobel Prize for her work among Calcutta's poor, cradles six-week-old Gregory Burns at a meeting of the American Family Institute in Washington.

Long-range cruise weapon for US Navy vessels

Washington, June 4. — The Reagan administration has given the United States Navy clearance to build new long-range cruise missiles capable of striking deep into the Soviet Union, according to senior Navy officials.

The Navy plans to equip submarines and surface ships with the missiles, and hopes to have the first ones installed in about a year, the officials said.

This means that the Administration will not allow American military power to be hampered by arms control agreements. Navy cruise missiles had been limited to a range of 372 miles under a United States-Soviet agreemen tthat expires at the end of this year.

It also means a large potential expansion in the number of strategic weapons—those with range enough to reach the heartland of an antagonist — deployed by the United States above limits negotiated with the Soviet Union. The decision is therefore certain to be strongly denounced by the Soviet media as contrary to the lengthy efforts to put limits on strategic

Pentagon officials believe the United States has a technological advantage over the Soviet Union in cruise missiles, small jet-powered craft that are guided by computers while flying at tree-top level.

"We want to capitalize on this (technological advantage) and put them on as many ships as possible", said an admiral involved in the project.—Washington Star.

£10m spent on resettling 60,000 Vietnamese

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong, June 4

The Intergovernmental Committee for Migration has spent about $21m (about £10.5m) in resettling 60,000 Vietnamese refugees abroad, mainly in the United States, between 1979 and last March.

Of this amount, $16m has already been repaid by 70 per cent of those resettled.

Acording to Mr Thomas Lamb, the Hongkong regional representative of the committee, which finances the transport of refugees from East Asia to their new homes, the great majority of those resettled start to repay by monthly instalments the cost of their flights as soon as they have found employment.

"If the refugees have hardships and are unable to repay, their promissory notes will be automatically written off", Mr Lamb said. "Despite delays, no refugees have said they will not repay."

☐ Manila: United States warships picked up more than 300 Vietnamese boat refugees in the South China Sea yesterday, a United States Embassy spokesman said today.

The Seventh Fleet guided missile destroyer Towers rescued 128 refugees from three boats, he said, and the fleet ammunition ship Shasta picked up 195 Vietnamese from two boats.

The 95 men, women and children on board one boat had been without water for four days

According to figures issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees, more than 10,000 boat refugees arrived in other Asian countries in April, more than double the rate in the first three months

In Malaysia, refugee officials asked the Government to investigate press reports that a group of part-time Malaysian soldiers assaulted a boatload of 150 Vietnamese refugees as they came ashore at a beach near Sabak yesterday.—Reuter.

Plane makers race to fill twin-jet market

From Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent, Paris, June 4

Three new twin-jet airliner projects, each aimed at the lucrative market for 150-seaters, were announced at the thirty-fourth air show which opened here today. The market for this size of aircraft is estimated to be 2,500 units up to the end of the century.

The projects are: The A320, by the European Airbus Industrie consortium, in which British Aerospace has a 20 per cent share, the MDF 100, proposed by a partnership between the American McDonnell Douglas Company and the Dutch firm Fokker, and the United States Boeing company's 7-7.

Furthest advanced are the A320 and the MDF100. Both aim to be ready for sale in 1986, and both promise to be 25 per cent cheaper to run than airliners operating today. The two manufacturers will be testing the world market for potential sales up to the end of this year.

M Bernard Lathiere, Director-General of Airbus Industrie, announcing the proposal for the A320, which will be made in two versions seating between 130 and 170 passengers, said: "We do not want to build aircraft for pleasure or for political reasons. We want to build aircraft that sell."

What the role of British Aerospace will be in the European project remains unclear. Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of the company, said here today that they wanted to take part, but would have to have talks with the British Government on funding before going ahead.

British Aerospace builds the wings for the existing A 300 and A 310 European airbuses. There are strong suggestions at the air show that the company might take on the final assembly of the A 320 at its Bristol works where the Concorde supersonic airliner was made.

McDonnell Douglas and Fokker will share the costs of developing the MDF-100 and yesterday the two companies announced an American programme manager and a Dutch deputy manager.

Two big United States manufacturers, Pratt and Whitney and General Electric, will be competing with Rolls-Royce to provide the engines for all three new types. Rolls-Royce's entry in the competition is an engine which the company is developing with the Japanese aerospace industry, the RJ500.

The company said here today that the first demonstration RJ500 is due to begin test running at its works at Bristol at the end of Januray.

British Aeorospace said at the show today that it has sold two of its 19-seater Jetstream 31 airliners to a New York airline, Mall Airways, and one other to a West German airline, Contactair. The orders are worth £5m, and the airlines have placed options to buy another four.

JAMES EARL RAY STABBED IN JAIL

Petros, Tennessee, June 4.—James Earl Ray, the convicted killer of Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, was stabbed several times in the chest, arm and neck this morning in the law library at Brushy Mountain prison.

Mr Ray, aged 53, who is serving 99 years for the 1968 murder, was taken to the Oak Ridge hospital for treatment. His condition was said to be stable after he underwent surgery.—AP.

MINESWEEPER IN COLLISION

Copenhagen, June 4.—An East German minesweeper suffered heavy damage in a collision with a Danish oil tanker in the south Baltic Sea.

The tanker struck the Kondor 336, a Warsaw Pact patrol vessel, in international waters south of Langeland Island, a Danish naval spokesman said. Despite the damage to the minesweeper, there were no injuries to crew. The tanker suffered only limited damage.—UPI.

Thais press for a Cambodia conference

From David Watts
Bangkok

China has given Thailand guarantees that it will abide by any decision reached at the proposed international conference on Cambodia, including non-interference in that country.

The commitment will be good so long as China is satisfied that any government formed there is the result of self-determination, Air Chief-Marshal Sitthi Savetsila, the Thai Foreign Minister, told me.

But he said that the long-term interests of China did not necessarily coincide with three of the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean). In the six years that China had had relations with Thailand "what they have said they have done", he said.

Thailand, along with the other Asean countries, has been pressing for an international conference on Cambodia, planned for July, because it believes that only by involving China, the Soviet Union and Vietnam can any kind of solution to the Cambodia dilemma be found. Vietnam and the Indo-Chinese countries have proposed a smaller, regional conference.

"The Vietnamese have proposed this mini-conference but we don't have any quarrel with them directly. Whether we agree with them or not, the problem will not go away. It's an international problem and must include all the countries, including China and the Soviet Union", the marshal said.

Though Vietnam has already stated that it will not attend the international conference, the Thai Foreign Minister said that whether or not Vietnam came to the meeting, its aim was to prove to Hanoi that the Asean countries were sincere about seeking a peaceful solution

"Whatever we do at the conference we should not humiliate Vietnam or push it into a corner. We're looking for a political solution. We're against putting them into the position where they cannot come to the conference table . . . we're not looking to punish Vietnam."

The Foreign Minister added that the Chinese had repeatedly assured Bangkok that they were not seeking influence in South-East Asia, their primary concern being the increase of Soviet influence in the region through the presence of Vietnamese forces. Peking had too many problems at home to be over-concerned

He said that the presence of thousands of Cambodian refugees in Thailand and the need to expand the Thai armed forces, was robbing Thailand of badly needed funds

In order to pay for new military equipment, including fighters, artillery and tanks, Thailand had had to borrow $1,000m (£500m).

In the year since the Vietnamese incursion last June, there had been improvements in the deployment and state of readiness of the Thai forces in spite of the attempted coup in April. In contrast, the Vietnamese inside Cambodia were having problems with the resupply of their forces.

"Their main problem now is resupply. Any idea of sweeping out the Khmer Rouge is out of the question," the Foreign Minister said.

He conceded that a Cambodian united front was unlikely to be formed in the near future but he was hopeful that with both Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr Son Sann, the leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, now in France, they would get together

ANGUILLA CABINET COLLAPSES

Anguilla, June 4.—The Anguilla Government led by Mr Ronald Webster, the Chief Minister, has collapsed after a Cabinet split and Mr Charles Goddard, the High Commissioner, has called a general election for June 22.

In 1967 Mr Webster led this tiny Caribbean island, with a population of 6,500, when it seceded from the three-island state of St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla.

He was dismissed from office in 1977 by the British who ruled Anguilla from London, but regained power in general elections in May last year.

A revolt in the Cabinet began while Mr Webster was away in Antigua attending the eleventh annual meeting of the board of governors of the Caribbean Development Bank. —Reuter.

BANK HOSTAGES ARE FREED

Manila, June 4.—Police and military special forces today stormed a bank in Quezon City where Gunmen holding 18 hostages exploded a grenade that left two dead and many injured. The hostages, weakened by tear gas, came out

The police move on the Philippine Islands Bank ended a five-hour ordeal begun as a robbery attempt by three gunmen. It came 30 minutes after the grenade exploded.
—Agence France-Presse.

S Korea pays price for stability

From Jacqueline Reditt, Seoul, June 4

After 16 months of unrest, South Korea is enjoying domestic stability and the nation's security problems appear to be well under control.

Only a series of small, but persistent, anti-government student demonstrations recalls last year's violent unrest and lends substance to occasionally expressed fears that the new calm may be only skin deep.

President Chun Doo Hwan, who was inaugurated as the republic's fifth head of state last March, has shown himself to be an impressive leader after a shaky start.

Having taken control in May, 1980, in what many considered was tantamount to a military coup, the Chun regime swiftly applied harsh measures to consolidate control.

Martial law was extended and troops were deployed to crush an armed rebellion in the south-western provincial capital of Kwangju.

Many student and political leaders were arrested, universities closed, the domestic press censored and politics banned. Kim Dae Jung, the former opposition leader, was blamed for instigating the Kwangju uprising, and was sentenced to death. Thousands lost their jobs in a wave of purges that swept through every sector of society.

For several months, South Korea became to all intents and purposes a military dictatorship. The North Korean communists claim that it still is, as do a minority of militant dissidents, opposition politicians and students in the South.

But most South Koreans appear to agree that, although full western-style democracy has not been achieved, nor perhaps is aspired to, the Chun Government has at least taken a good many steps in the right direction.

These steps include the revision of the constitution—giving greater guarantees on human rights, limiting the powers of the president, and providing for a peaceful transfer of power after a single, seven-year presidential term.

Martial law has been lifted, the promised presidential and parliamentary elections held, and Mr Kim's death sentence has been commuted to life imprisonment. Overt press censorship has ended and in a series of amnesties, many political prisoners, including all but 23 of the several hundred convicted for their involvement in the Kwangju incident, have been released.

These democratic reforms have been accompanied by a campaign to soften the "army strongman" image of the President. He has been depicted by the press as a family man.

President Chun's foreign policy is proving a success. relations have been repaired Once shaky American-Korean relations have been repaired and Seoul has won promises of continued American troop support in Korea and more arms sales.

Full diplomatic relations with oil-rich Nigeria and Libya have been established and President Chun will soon make a goodwill tour of the Asean nations—Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippnes.

The President scored a diplomatic coup by inviting President Kim Il Sung of North Korea to visit the South, and he has also agreed in principle to summit talks with the Japanese.

There is, however, still an uneasiness in South Korea, which boils down to the fact that people do not feel free, politically or otherwise.

Although most emergency measures have been relaxed, many daily restrictions remain.

The fear of hostile action by North Korea lies behind many of the restrictions. It also ensures that the military remains the most powerful force in the country.

Because the parliamentary opposition in South Korea is not considered a real force in the running of the country, it cannot serve as an effective safety valve. It is therefore left to the militant students to show open opposition

Repressing opposition has enabled President Chun to establish control and restore law and order, but a continued lack of a legitimate and credible opposition could undermine that control.

Football

An English crisis of faith over one of their most faithful servants

From Norman Fox
Football Correspondent
Budapest, June 4

Tomorrow Ron Greenwood announces the team responsible for the direction English international football will take in the foreseeable future. Partly because of his own failure to fix upon a forward-looking and settled pattern, but mainly as a result of inadequate material, he reaches Saturday's World Cup game against Hungary here with no one sure of the way he is thinking.

While it is accepted that in nearly four years he has been restricted by injuries to important team members, a fiercely demanding club programme and the lack of a nucleus of exceptional players, he has to accept some blame for being as far as ever from having a familiar, efficient team.

Previous managers have not had as much good will, nor been as supported by, allegedly, the best coaches in the league. Against that, some of the players he defends with such paternal care have abused him with their failure to give full commitment. He has also allowed his loyalty to extend international careers (notably those of Keegan and Watson) to the point at which there is little justification for selection. Keegan and Watson are likely to play on Saturday. Both could play well, but their appearance would confirm that England had failed to build for the future.

Mr Greenwood says he knows in his own mind the team who must beat the Hungarians for a realistic chance of reaching the finals. After Romania's victory over Norway there is nothing to be gained from thinking of a draw as being honorable, though in easier circumstances that would be a creditable result in the Nep Stadium, where today the temperature was over 90. The question he must have answered to his own satisfaction is: which players are most likely to bring the goals and stand up to the rest? The question asked of him is whether he can inspire them out of their disappointments. His oldest critics claim that "motivation" is not one of his talents.

After the defeat in Switzerland last Saturday, there was the familiar demand for changes. In the past there have been too many changes, some needless and done in desperation. Within the available squad there is no unknown individual talent that would seriously concern the Hungarians. The changes now must be for a single important game, related to short-term hopes.

It is a clear sign of England's present insecurity and aimlessness that no debate here ends with agreement over the team Mr Greenwood will choose. In an ideal situation, without pressure and heat, one could envisage Hoddle being used in midfield, perhaps catching the Hungarians before they are aware of his potential. But here is another sign of lost opportunity. By this point Hoddle should have been firmly established in a midfield strong enough to allow for his inactive minutes.

Soon after his appointment Mr Greenwood found that his most successful team incorporated two wingers, Coppell and Barnes, who were involved in a 4—1 home win over Hungary in 1978. More recent use of these two, with the traditional centre forward, Withe, has been less effective but one hopes Mr Greenwood does not again expect Barnes to act like some rescuing cavalryman charging into the valley of disaster after the opponents have won the battle. The personal preference would be to begin the game, at least, using both wingers with Mariner in the centre of attack. Mariner is in an understandably lethargic frame of mind after injuries and a hard season but Francis and Woodcock are simply not playing well enough or scoring goals.

Keegan, for all his service to England, has lost some of his crucial pace and against the Swiss was rarely able to beat his marker. Responsibility for supporting Mariner from midfield should come from McDermott, who is still in good form, and Brooking, both potential goal-scorers, with Robson offering the essential industry. Wilkins has recently been negative.

In view of defeat and fears that Hungary's fast forwards, Kiss and Torocsik, will exhaust Watson mentally and physically, there is a strong case for including the younger Osman at the side of Thompson with Mills at right back and the delightfully dedicated Sanson on the left. Corrigan has a strong case for being in goal since, in Shilton's absence, he is now the No 2 and Clemence was not entirely convincing against Switzerland.

Mr Greenwood could have decided that the team to start will be: Clemence, Mills, Thompson, Watson, Sanson, McDermott, Robson, Wilkins (or Brooking), Coppell, Keegan and Mariner. If this is the case Keegan must get into the Hungarian penalty area and Barnes be brought on at half-time, or before, if there is the expected lack of width and variety.

Hungary, unbeaten in three World Cup games, have achieved a settled team, although by including the 34-year-old Antwerp-based Fazekas and others in their mid-20s they, too, are accused of not looking to the future.

HUNGARY: B Katzirz (Pecs); G Martos (Ferencvaros), L Balint (Bruges), L Varga (Honved), S Muller (Antwerp), I Garaba (Honved), L Fazekas (Antwerp), T Nyilasi (Ferencvaros), L Kiss (Vasas), J Mucha (Ferencvaros), A Torocsik (Ujpest Dozsa).

England on all-out strike

Justin Fashanu returns to an England under-21 side that will have three strikers facing Hungary today. The Norwich man will be joined by Garry Thompson, of Aston Villa.

"All three are proven goal-scorers, so that gives us a good chance in attack and very often the best way to defend is to give the other team problems at the back," David Sexton, the manager, said. Mike Duxbury, of Manchester United, drops out with an ankle injury received against Switzerland, giving Ray Ranson another under-21 cap. Mark Procter, from Middlesbrough, goes back to the substitutes's bench.

Three strikers in a 4—3—3 formation could cause overcrowding, although the team have been working on this in training. Mr Sexton sees the match as "the first leg of a decider" because England, with five points from four games, and Hungary, with four points from two games, have the strongest chance of winning the one place in the knockout section which follows next season.

ENGLAND UNDER-21: O Lukic (Leeds), R Ranson (Man City), S McCall (Ipswich), S Lee (Liverpool, captain), W Gilbert (Crystal Palace), M Smith (Sheffield Wednesday), R Moses (West Bromwich), G Thompson (Coventry), J Fashanu (Norwich), G Shaw (Aston Villa), A Heath (Stoke).

Irish cannot be consoled for World Cup defeat

The price of Northern Ireland's World Cup failure in Sweden on Wednesday could exceed £250,000. And that means the Irish FA will be claiming around £120,000 from their English counterparts for pulling out of the Home Championship game in Belfast last month.

Harry Cavan, the IFA president, said: "That money, which we feel is due to us, will be absolutely vital if we fail to get to Spain, as now seems almost certain. Wednesday's defeat was an absolute disaster for us."

The matter of compensation will be delat with at an international board meeting in Wrexham later this month, but no amount of money can console the Irish after their 1—0 defeat in Stockholm. England's withdrawal from their Belfast commitmente—which left the Irish short of match practice—is being given as a prime reason for the flop. But the Irish manager, Billy Bingham, has reprimanded the two players most at fault in the inept display against the Swedish part-timers—Manchester United's Jimmy Nicholl, who gave away a penalty, and Cochrane, of Middlesbrough, who was sent off, along with the Swedish goalscorer, Borg.

There was a heated exchange between the two soon after the match started, and from that point Nicholl's game went to pieces. The Irish were not helped by a fussy Italian referee and Nicholl admitted afterwards: "The referee's decisions, which kept going against us made me so uptight I lost control."

The defeat leaves the Irish with only a mathematical chance of qualifying and puts Scotland in a fine position. The Irish must beat the Scots in Belfast in October and hope that both Scotland and Portugal drop unexpected points in their remaining matches.

Norwegian newspapers were agreed that Romania overran their national team to gain a deserved 1—0 victory in their group four World Cup qualification match in Bucharest on Wednesday. But they also agreed that the Turkish referee Ercan Goeksel was the weakest man on the field.

"Romania was best and the referee worst", bannered the tabloid newspaper, *Vaart Land*. The result puts Romania on top of the group and makes England's position more desperate.

The unexpected 3—1 defeat of Italy in a World Cup match against Denmark in Copenhagen on Wednesday triggered irate, bitter and astonished comments in the Italian press. Although Italy are certain to qualify for Spain "the humiliation stands, and will rankle for a long time", Italy's largest daily, *Gazzetta Dello Sport* wrote.

FA could face mass resignations

The Arsenal chairman, Denis Hill-Wood, hinted yesterday that league clubs could resign from the Football Association over the contentious issue of paid directors. Mr Hill-Wood wants his fellow chairmen to use today's league annual general meeting in London as an opportunity to force the FA's hand.

The FA recently rejected a proposal that would have permitted one paid director per club. Mr Hill-Wood wants the issue discussed but he is not too optimistic of it happening: "The question of paid directors is not on the agenda and nor is any other business", he said.

The clubs successfully employed strong-arm tactics about 10 years ago: "The FA wanted all chairmen and secretaries to sign a certain clause, but there was no way would could agree to it. All 92 clubs came out of the FA—and *it* worked. It could easily happen again."

The Alliance League club, Altrincham, hope to enter the Football League next season for the first time. They missed a league place a year ago by the narrowest of margins—two clubs failed to vote—and *this* time challenge Tranmere Rovers, Hereford United, Halifax Town and York City. Wycombe Wanderers are the other non-league hopefuls.

Cycling

British hopes flattened as Bartolsic wins

By John Wilcockson

With two days left in the Milk Race, Soviet Union cyclists again proved, on yesterday's stage across the Pennines, that attack was the best form of defence. But, although they maintain their leading two positions, their quest to complete their domination by dislodging Poland from the top rung of the team ladder could yet cause their downfall.

The tenth stage, from Darlington to Newcastle over 77 miles, was won by Jiri Bartolsic, from Brno. A 28-year-old Czechoslovakian, he finished ninth in 1976 but had not shown similar form until yesterday. He ended a lone ride of 21 miles in Newcastle, 19 seconds ahead of the main group of 26, which contained all six of the Soviet team.

The day's most unfortunate incident involved Hans Oedegaard, of Norway, seventh overnight. After negotiating a steep, zigzag descent into Stanhope, 45 miles from the finish, one of the Norwegian's tyres blew out, causing him to fall heavily. He eventually ended the stage in the second group, almost 10 minutes behind the leaders.

For the third day running, punctures also handicapped the top two British riders, Bob Downs and Joe Waugh, but it did not prevent them from matching the top Russians. Downs suffered the first flat tyre at the foot of one-in-six climb after Stanhope but he regained his position at the front after an uphill chase of two miles.

Waugh was more unfortunate. He attacked on a steep slope climbing out of the beautifully sited village of Blanchland and only Vedernikov could stay with him. Five others joined them over the top, including Krivosheev, currently second, Pedersen, the top Norwegian, but only one Polish rider.

It was the chance that the two Soviet riders had been awaiting as it would enable them to regain the lead in the team race. It would also have helped Waugh overtake the two Poles above him in the individual table but, as the seven men had moved 30 seconds clear, Waugh sustained a puncture in his front tyre and the opportunity was lost.

RESULTS: 10th stage: 1, J Bartolsic (Czechoslovakia) 3 hrs 8 mins 58 secs; 2, Z Szczepkowski (Poland) 3:8:07; 3, D Pedersen (Norway); 4, S Brathen (Norway); 5, A Vedernikov (USSR); 6, J Brzezny (Poland); 7, J Waugh (GB); 8, S Krivosheev (USSR); 9, A Mierzejewski (Poland); 10, V Malakhov (USSR); 15, R Downs (GB), 3:8:57; 16, P Longbottom (GB), same time; 32, S Lawrence (GB), 3:18:19.
OVERALL: 1, Vedernikov, 35:44:33; 2, Krivosheev 35:45:24; 3, Szczepkowski, 35:45:35; 4, Brzezny, 35:45:43; 5, Pedersen, 35:46:15; 6, Waugh, 35:46:21; 7, W Mokielowski (Poland), 35:46:52; 8, B Wodok (Poland), 35:46:53; 9, R Downs (GB), 35:47:10; 10, Mierzejewski, 35:47:25. Team: 1, Poland, 107:3:10; 2, USSR, 107:5:29; 3, Norway, 107:6:13; 4, Sweden, 107:12:21; 5, Czechoslovakia, 107:18:39; 6, GB, 107:23:1.

Hockey

Slough may find the grass is greener in Belgium

From Sydney Friskin
Brussels, June 4

After their brilliant successes in the English season, Slough have high hopes of achieving yet another triumph by retaining the European club championship which starts tomorrow. The event is being played for the first time in two places, the first division here, the second in Rome.

Slough's main rivals for the senior title are the Dutch champions, Klein Zwitserland, whom they defeated 1—0 in the final at Barcelona last year and who, in turn, won the title at The Hague in 1979. The Dutch will start their challenge tomorrow with a match against Edinburgh Civil Service in group B.

Oddly enough, Chris Sutherland, a Scottish international who for several years has played for Edinburgh Civil Service, will be on the opposite side. He joined Zwitserland about a year ago and has played a big part in their successes which, more recently, include a 5—4 win over the Dutch national side and a 10—0 victory over Belgium.

But Edinburgh, having lost a number of senior players, have little chance of success in this tournament. The latest blow is the absence of Dargo, who suffered a foot injury.

Slough have their full side available under the leadership of Paul Barber. They know the strength of Zwitserland but a psychological point in Slough's favour is the apprehension expressed by the Dutch over the grass pitches at the Royal Uccle Club. They would have preferred artificial turf.

Slough, with their wealth of talent, are well known for their adaptability. They were fortunate in completing their training with two matches against the England squad, a 3—3 draw on a shale pitch at High Wycombe, and a 1—1 draw on a synthetic rubber surface at Brunel University.

Four British clubs, Norton, of England, Portadown, of Northern Ireland, Glasgow Western and Penarth have qualified for the women's championship which is being held simultaneously here.

Whitchurch, the Welsh Cup winners, who went to Poland to qualify, are taking part in the Rome event. Their group rivals are the champions of Austria, Yugoslavia and Italy in the second division of the men's championship.

GROUP A: Frankenthal (WG), Ska Sverdlovsk (USSR), Slough, Lyon.
GROUP B: Klein Zwitserland, Real Club d'Polo (Barcelona), Royal Uccle (Belgium), Edinburgh CS.

Cricket

Boycott and Gooch give England the start they need

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S: England beat Australia by six wickets

England took their expected lead in the three-match series for the Prudential Trophy when they beat Australia at Lord's yesterday with 3.2 overs to spare. They did so before a full house on a wonderfully good pitch and in cool, mostly cloudy weather.

Needing 211 to win from their 55 overs England were given just the right start by Boycott and Gooch (their past five opening partnerships, in Test matches and one-day internationals, have been 60, 144, 93, 5 and now 86) and when rain threatened Gower came in and played with the insolent ease of the highly gifted.

It was England's seventh successive one-day victory over Australia. With both bat and ball they were just that much better. Australia had no one, other than the convalescent Lillee, to make the batsmen fret. Boycott, with an eye for the number of overs bowled, was still there at the finish, [illegible] declared, soon afterwards, Man of the Match.

Australia will improve on this form. All things considered, they did well enough to reach 210 for seven, specially after being 48 for three. Dyson went to the second ball of the day, leg before wicket, trying to hit Willis through midwicket, and Wood and Chappell were both run out, Wood because he usually is and Chappell (revealed as a cutter of some account) through one of those undeserved deflections off the bowler's hand. No one contributed more towards Australia's recovery than Border, who came in when Hughes was fourth out at 60 and hit the last ball of the innings through the covers for four.

For the fifth wicket Border and Kent added 74, punishing Gooch and Willey immediately after lunch and making sure in a few overs then that England's batsmen would be left with something to do. Kent was beginning to look a player of some class—he had scored only six in his first 11 overs—when he flicked Botham to short midwicket. With Marsh, Bright and Lawson all making a few, Australia showed less obvious signs than might have been expected of their shortage of cricket. Last month they made fewer runs between them than Bradman took the chance to do, off his own bat in the first four and a half weeks of the 1930 season.

Although the comliest of the faster bowlers, Willis ran about the field better than for a year or two and made a quick throw, on the turn off his own bowling, to run out Wood. Humpage took the odd ball without it falling out of his gloves, though not the chance which Hughes gave him as soon as he came in. Gatting's throwing was marvellously accurate and Botham took a couple of wickets. Nothing that Botham did yesterday will have cost him his job.

For all but a few overs, England had had nine men inside the 30-yard area. Except for those few overs in the early afternoon, they had been concerned more with saving ones than fours. When Australia bowled, Lillee wore two sweaters and a yellow bandean. He is said to have lost a stone during his illness. He bowled off a short run and at nothing like his old pace. For all that, he was the bowler to be feared.

Gooch was splendid, all the bowling alike to him. Before yesterday, Chappell had bowled only one over on the tour. Not surprisingly, he found Gooch difficult to contain. At tea, England were 61 for no wicket after 17 overs.

When Gooch went to his 50 with a huge pull for six into the grandstand off Bright, Lillee had only two of his 11 overs left. In the first of these, Gooch was well caught at slip and Gatting was leg-before. At 86 for two in the 27th over, England looked to Gower to get them on the move again, which he did with beautifully timed strokes and some well-judged running.

For the third wicket, he and Boycott made 86 and when Gower was out, to much the same stroke that Kent had played, Love, briefly, got the feel of things. Lastly, after a very good slip catch by Bright had removed Love, Botham finished things off—to rousing noises from the Tavern. There for sure, he is the choice for captain.

AUSTRALIA

J Dyson, l-b-w, b Willis .. 2
G M Wood, run out .. [illegible]
T M Chappell, run out .. [illegible]
*K J Hughes, c [illegible], b Jackman .. [illegible]
A R Border, not out .. [illegible]
M F Kent, c [illegible], b Botham .. [illegible]
R W Marsh, b Botham .. [illegible]
Extras [illegible] .. [illegible]

Total (7 wkts, 55 overs) .. 210

D K Lillee and R M Hogg did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: [illegible]

BOWLING: Willis, [illegible]

ENGLAND

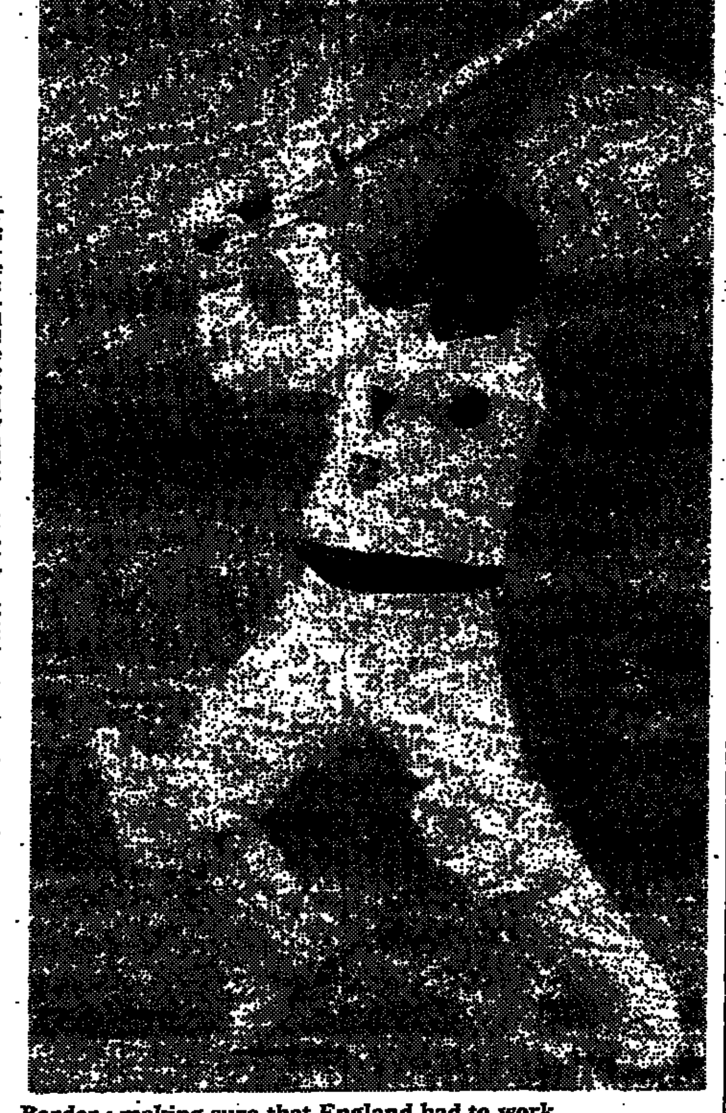
G A Gooch, c Kent, b Lillee .. 53
G Boycott, not out .. 75
M W W Gatting, l-b-w, b Lillee .. 0
D I Gower, c Kent, b Chappell .. 47
J D Love, c Bright, b Lawson .. 15
*I T Botham, not out .. 13
Extras (b 5, l-b 4) .. 9

Total (4 wkts, 51.4 overs) .. 212

P Willey, †G W Humpage, R D Jackman, R G D Willis and M Hendrick did not bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1—86, 2—86, 3—172, 4—199.

BOWLING: Hogg, 11—1—36—0; Lillee 11—3—23—2; Lawson 9—0—51—1; Chappell, 11—1—50—1; Bright, 9.4—0—43—0.



Border: making sure that England had to work.

Brearley bat with the polish of an old table

By Alan Gibson

BASINGSTOKE: Hampshire, with all second innings wickets in hand, are 84 runs behind Middlesex.

The day's cricket, what we had of it, was dominated by Brearley, who scored a century, despite the chill and the harassing bad light. Brearley has never been exactly an elegant batsman but he has become a polished one, if you take the distinction; rather like a Victorian mahogany table, of no intrinsic beauty but shining from many years of assiduous toil.

Middlesex began at 88 for two, 123 behind. Brearley and Selvey were in. Selvey, the night-watchman, did not get out until the score was 138, an irritating habit which night-watchmen often have. Butcher came in and played a brisk innings while Brearley was content to hold the other end.

Tomlin played some handsome strokes. So did Edmonds, who obviously came in with a commission to get a move on. The declaration came after 109 overs, Middlesex 111 on.

Hampshire were not dismayed to judge by the way Greenidge set about the bowling. His first four was edgy but he followed it with several masterful ones. But the rain settled in.

HAMPSHIRE: First innings, 211 (C G Greenidge, 96; M W W Selvey, 5 for 79).

Second Innings

C G Greenidge, not out .. 25
T M Tremlett, not out .. 2

Total (no wkt) .. 27

M C J Nicholas, T E Jesty, D R Turner, *N E J Pocock, N G Cowley, M D Marshall, †R J Parks, J W Southern and K Stevenson to bat.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

*J M Brearley, c Greenidge, b Stevenson .. 135
W N Slack, l-b-w, b Stevenson .. 22
C T Radley, l-b-w, b Jesty .. 19
M W W Selvey, c Greenidge, b Jesty .. 25
R O Butcher, st Parks, b Southern .. 48
K P Tomlins, run out .. 33
P H Edmonds, not out .. 23
†P R Downton, not out .. 0
Extras (b 8, l-b 7, w 3) .. 18

Total (6 wkts dec.) .. 322

100 overs: 305—5.

J R Thomson, J D Monteith and W W Daniel did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—41, 2—76, 3—138, 4—221, 5—284, 6—317.

BOWLING: Marshall, 31—9—87—0; Stevenson, 31—1—102—2; Jesty, 19—7—44—2; Southern, 13—2—53—1; Tremlett, 11—3—14—0; Cowley, 4—0—22—0.

Bonus points: Hampshire 4, Middlesex 8.

Umpires: K E Palmer and D R Shepherd.

Tennis

Americans in Paris are danced off the court by Europeans

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Paris, June 4

Sylvia Hanika, aged 21, will play Hana Mandlikova, 19, in the women's singles final of the French championships. Miss Hanika is the first German to advance as far since 1970 and Miss Mandlikova is the first Czechoslovak to do so since 1976. Today each confounded the seedings and the world rankings by beating their American opponents.

The United States have been similarly discomfited in the men's singles. For the first time since 1972 they will not be represented in the semi-final round, though the seedings suggested that Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe and Gene Mayer would all be there. Tomorrow's pairings will be Bjorn Borg v Victor Pecci and Ivan Lendl v Jose-Luis Clerc.

Today's most important results were Lendl's completion of a 6—4, 6—4, 7—5 win over McEnroe in two hours and 13 minutes, Miss Hanika's 4—6, 6—1, 6—4, win over Andrea Jaeger in an hour and 50 minutes (on Miss Jaeger's 16th birthday) and then, most surprising of all, Miss Mandlikova's 7—5, 6—4 success over Chris Lloyd in an hour and 42 minutes of exciting, beautifully designed tennis.

Miss Hanika had six break points for a 5—1 lead before losing the first set. But essentially the match hinged on the fact that she had the more punishing game when she had the confidence to play it—as, eventually, she had.

Lendl, serving at 2—3 and 0—30 down in the third set when his match with McEnroe was resumed, lost six of today's first seven points but, from 2—5 down, won five games at the cost of only four points to finish the match. Later Lendl said that beating McEnroe was easier than he had expected it to be. McEnroe confessed that his preparation had been inadequate. "It was a matter of not adjusting. A disgrace, really. I don't think I put out a good performance in one match in this tournament—so I didn't deserve to win it."

As critical a phase as any was a long, marvellous game in which Mrs Lloyd, who made the confident start, had four points for a 4—0 lead in the first set. The shrewd, lucid, swiftly-flowing patterns of that game excelled anything offered by Miss Hanika and Miss Jaeger—though their's, too, was a match that painted women's tennis in some of its brightest colours.

Here was another contrast in playing methods. Miss Jaeger looked a frail, somewhat waif-like figure by comparison with the sturdy and strong German. As against Miss Navratilova in the previous round, Miss Hanika used the basic strategy of coming in behind booming services or deep, high-bouncing top-spun drives and trying to put away the responses with volleys or smashes.

But by comparison with Miss Navratilova, Miss Jaeger was more tenacious in her retrieving and struck a better length. At times she seemed incapable of error when attempting passing shots. Her anticipation belied her years and her occasional forays to the net belied her reputation.

The splendour of Miss Mandlikova's performance can be measured by referring to Mrs Lloyd's credentials as a clay-court player. In six appearances here, Mrs Lloyd had previously been beaten only by Margaret Court in the 1973 final, when Mrs Lloyd was 18. Since August, 1973, Mrs Lloyd has only twice been beaten in 191 singles matches on clay—by Tracy Austin in the 1979 Italian championships and by Miss Mandlikova this afternoon.

In 69 singles matches since last Wimbledon, Mrs Lloyd has been beaten only three times—twice (now) by Miss Mandlikova and once by Martina Navratilova. But Mrs Lloyd told us this evening: "I had not lost a match all year and did not want it to happen in a major tournament. I was thinking about that today. Everybody has their time and in the first set Hana was playing so well, hitting so many winners, that I thought maybe it was her time now. She has never really lived up to her potential but I think she will win.

"I felt that my forehand let me down a little and I was not getting enough first services in. She was killing my second serve. I kept hanging in there, hoping she would have a lapse. But she was steady and she played me perfectly. She was jerking me around the court, side to side and up and down—the way she has always wanted to play me. She could be better than Evonne Cawley. She's stronger and has more power. She can hit top spin or slice. She's got all the shots".

This was characteristically modest about Mrs Lloyd's own contribution to a match which demonstrated that, on distinguished occasions, women can play enchanting tennis, even on such a slow surface as European clay. These slim, smart, straight-backed players played a thrilling shrewdly-designed match illuminated by super shot-making and a striking contrast in playing methods.

Miss Mandlikova was more hazardously adventurous in exploiting a wider range of shots without much margin for error, though it must be added that she could not have won but for the patience and discipline with which she sparred from the baseline before trying something special—as example, a fierce forehand or a drop shot that, even if it was not an outright winner, at least made Mrs Lloyd positionally vulnerable.

MEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-final: I Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat J McEnroe (US), 6—4, 6—4, 7—5.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Semi-final: S Hanika (WG) beat A Jaeger (US), 4—6, 6—1, 6—4; H Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) beat C Lloyd (US), 7—5, 6—4.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Semi-final: H Gunthardt (Switzerland) and B Taroczy (Hungary) beat J L Clerc (Argentina) and I Nastase (Romania), 5—7, 6—3, 6—4, 6—2.

MIXED DOUBLES: Quarter-final: F McNair (US) and B Stove (Netherlands) beat A Gildemeister (Chile) and [illegible] Kloss (SA), 7—6, 2—6, 6—2; A Gomez (Ecuador) and K Horvath (US) beat S Denton and A Smith (US), 7—6, 6—7.

Miss Charles reaches out lengthily for Wimbledon

By David Powell

Lesley Charles became an unexpected member of the semi-final round line-up at Beckenham yesterday by disposing of Lindsay Morse, the sixth seed, after she had trailed by one set and three games to love. Consequently Britain retain the chance of representation in the women's final for the second successive year, Joanne Durie having been runner-up to Andrea Jaeger last summer.

Miss Charles was not seeded for the tournament, which is sponsored by the *Kentish Times*, yet had beaten Beth Norton, the third seed, in the second round. Miss Morse, of the United States, seemed likely to avenge the defeat of her compatriot by dominating the net in the opening set. The sixth seed established command of the second set, too, at which point Miss Charles threw caution to the wind, of which there was plenty, and won the next nine games for one set all and a three—love final set advantage.

The British No 7 from Worcestershire surrendered her ground and fell 4—3 behind as she wasted seven break points in the fifth and seventh games. However, by serving well and using the full capacity of her lengthy reach, she claimed the match 3—6, 6—3, 6—4, and now meets Elizabeth Little, of Australia, in today's semi-finals.

Miss Charles, aged 28, is playing better now than she has for two years. "I have had some tough matches this week but I have been serving well and if I do that I tend to do well", she said. Her progression to the last four at Beckenham should, she believes, make sufficient impression to earn her a wild card place for the main draw at Wimbledon.

The top seed, Pam Shriver, of the United States, has yet to concede a set and she arrived in the semi-final round with a 6—3, 6—1 victory over Marjorie Blackwood, another American, who was seeded seventh. Miss Shriver is the only seed remaining in the women's event and she now plays Jane Preyer, also of the United States, in the other semi-final.

The men's championship roll of honour during the past decade includes some celebrated names—Smith, Ashe and Connors for example. Among them are Amritraj, winner in 1974, and Edmondson, who followed the example three years later. Their meeting in yesterday's quarter-final round was not the close match expected, with Amritraj losing 7—5, 6—2. Edmondson has lost only once to Amritraj in four duels and that was at Wimbledon in 1979, when the Indian came within two points of beating Borg.

MEN'S SINGLES: Third round: B Teacher (US) beat D Visser (SA), 6—4, 7—6. Quarter-final: C Lewis (NZ) beat P Rennert (US), 6—4, 6—1; K Curren (SA) beat M Davis (US), 6—3, 6—7, 6—2; M Edmondson (Australia) beat V Amritraj (India), 7—5, 6—2; R Lewis leads B Teacher (US), 7—6, 2—3.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-final: J Preyer (US) beat J Mundel (SA), 6—1, 6—4; L Charles beat L Morse (US), 3—6, 6—3, 6—4.

Scanlon brings progress of Lloyd to a halt

John Lloyd's progress suffered a temporary setback when he was beaten in the quarter-finals of the tournament, sponsored by GMC Moben Kitchens, at Didsbury, Manchester, yesterday. Bill Scanlon, a 24-year-old from Dallas and the No 3 seed, beat Lloyd 7—6, 6—3 in 68 minutes in a match which he controlled only in the later stages.

In spite of his defeat, Lloyd was pleased with his efforts. "I can't grumble about my form today", he said. "Bill never gave me any easy points. I had to work hard for everything." Lloyd twice had Scanlon in trouble in the opening set but the American, ranked No 38 in the world to Lloyd's 251, scrambled through the sixth game only after saving a couple of break points.

In the tie-break he trailed 2—4 before a lucky forehand winner trickled over the net and tipped the balance. Scanlon showed more confidence in the second set and Lloyd's chance went when he dropped his service, for the only time in the match, in the sixth game to trail 2—4.

MEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-final: W Scanlon (US) beat J Lloyd, 7—6, 6—3; B Drewett (Australia) beat P Fleming (US), 7—5, 3—6, 6—3; P Dent (Australia) beat W Pascoe (Australia), 6—4, 6—2; R Tanner (US) beat J Borowiak (US), 6—4, 7—6.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-final: S Walsh (US) beat J Plackett, 6—3, 7—5; R Casals (US) beat R Blount (US), 6—3, 6—2; P Shriver (US) beat S Blackwood, 6—5, 6—1; E Little (Australia) beat T Holladay (US), 7—5, 6—1; J Stratton (US) beat J Russell (US), 6—0, 1—6, 6—4; K Latham (US) beat B Thompson 6—1, 6—1.

Clarke brings warmth to a cold day

By Richard Streeton

MANCHESTER: Lancashire, with eight second innings wickets in hand, lead Surrey by 90 runs.

Surrey's main batsman were unable to come to terms with the Lancashire fast bowlers yesterday and it was first Intikhab, and then Clarke, who ensured that the follow-on was avoided. Clarke went on to hit six sixes as he made 79 in 13 overs and also took two wickets as Lancashire batted in the final half-hour.

Until Clarke began his spectacular innings, much of the play had been as cheerless as the weather. It was cold and overcast and a blustery wind blew from the Stretford end. There were two stoppages for rain totalling 55 minutes in mid-afternoon, and it could have been no fun playing cricket. With Lancashire's over-rate for much of the time below 15 an hour, there were moments when it was not all that enjoyable watching it, either.

Knight and Lynch were the only batsmen to make a contribution early on as Surrey laboured to reach 134 for six at tea from 60 overs. Knight sometimes drove handsomely on the off side but he was never able to take control. He also survived a sharp chance to short leg when 33.

Lynch, after early uncertainties, looked more like himself when he struck Allott for three fours in one over, but he never seemed properly confident. Holding often had four slips and two gullies but bowled too many balls that could be left alone. Allott took some late punishment but again impressed with his determination and ability to move the ball off the seam.

Knight came in after Clinton was caught at short square leg off his glove. Butcher had already been struck on the hand by Holding when he was hit in the same place by Allott and retired. Roope had his off stump knocked back and Smith was beaten as he played half forward. Knight too, was similarly deceived. Surrey's hopes of reaching 183 to avoid the follow-on looked poor when Thomas was run out and Lynch hit across a flighted ball from Simmons.

Intikhab, however, took three fours from an over by Allott and he and Richards had put on 32 together for the seventh wicket—the best stand of the innings at that stage—before Richards was caught at backward short leg. Clarke then came in and a series of crisply struck fours against Allott and Holding took Surrey to 184.

Clarke lost Intikhab and was joined by Pocock as his hitting became more and more violent. Lancashire were now using spin and massive pulls and off drives brought Clarke three sixes against Simmons, one against Hughes and two from successive balls against David Lloyd. Trying for a third next ball, Clarke was bowled. His 79 had come out of 85. It was stirring stuff, and Surrey's first innings deficit of 78 was far less than had seemed probable earlier.

LANCASHIRE: First innings, 332 for 7 dec (C H Lloyd 74, A Kennedy 64, D Lloyd 63).

Second Innings

A Kennedy, c Lynch, b Clarke .. 4
G Fowler, not out .. 8
P J W Allott, c Smith, b Clarke .. 0
D Lloyd, not out .. 0

Total (2 wkts) .. 12

*C H Lloyd, D P Hughes, B W Reidy, J Simmons, M A Holding, †C J Scott and P G Lee to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—10, 2—12.

SURREY: First Innings

A R Butcher, not out .. 13
G S Clinton, c D Lloyd, b Holding .. 13
*R D V Knight, l-b-w, b Allott .. 42
G R J Roope, b Allott .. 0
D M Smith, l-b-w, b Allott .. 16
M A Lynch, st Scott, b Simmons .. 46
D J Thomas, run out .. 3
†C J Richards, c D Lloyd, b Holding .. 7
Intikhab Alam, l-b-w, b Simmons .. 25
S T Clarke, b D Lloyd .. 79
P I Pocock, c and b D Lloyd .. 7
Extras (l-b 3) .. 3

Total (81.3 overs) .. 254

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—15, 2—45, 3—73, 4—100, 5—123, 6—134, 7—166, 8—184, 9—251, 10—254.

BOWLING: Holding, 27—12—63—2; Allott, 21—5—83—3; Lee, 13—2—54—0; Simmons, 14—5—41—2; Hughes, 4—1—11—0; D Lloyd, 2.3—0—18—2.

Bonus points: Lancashire 8, Surrey 4.

Umpires: C Cook and P J Eele.

Notts v Gloucester

AT NOTTINGHAM

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First innings, 200 (K Saxelby 4 for 64).

Second Innings

Sadiq Mohammad, c Dexter, b Cooper .. 7
C B Broad, b Rice .. 1
A W Stovold, c Dexter, b Hemmings .. 29
Zaheer Abbas, not out .. 29
A J Hignell, not out .. 0
Extras (l-b 4, n-b 2) .. 6

Total (3 wkts) .. 72

*M J Procter, P Bainbridge, D A Graveney, A H Wilkins, A J Brassington and J H Childs to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—4, 2—20, 3—57.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

P A Todd, b Childs .. 96
R T Robinson, b Childs .. 60
R E Dexter, c Procter, b Childs .. 10
*C E B Rice, c Procter, b Childs .. 3
J D Birch, b Procter .. 29
M J Harris, b Procter .. 0
†B N French, c Procter, b Childs .. 9
R J Hadlee, c Sadiq, b Bainbridge .. 3
E E Hemmings, l-b-w, b Procter .. 1
K Saxelby, not out .. 10
K E Cooper, c Sadiq, b Procter .. 0
Extras (b 10, l-b 10) .. 20

Total (93 overs) .. 262

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—163, 2—164, 3—182, 4—185, 5—210, 6—221, 7—232, 8—241, 9—246, 10—262.

BOWLING: Procter, 24—7—45—4; Wilkins, 23—2—76—0; Bainbridge, 19—4—48—1; Childs, 26—7—73—5; Graveney, 1—1—0—0.

Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 7, Gloucestershire 6.

Umpires: B J Meyer and P S G Stevens.

Worcester v Glamorgan

AT HEREFORD

GLAMORGAN: First Innings, 254 (A Jones 63, Javed Miandad 52).

Second Innings

A Jones, not out .. 32
J A Hopkins, not out .. 25

Total (no wkt) .. 57

R C Ontong, Javed Miandad, N G Featherstone, M J Llewellyn, E A Moseley, †E A Jones, *M A Nash, B J Lloyd and R N S Hobbs to bat.

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

*G M Turner, c Nash, b Moseley .. 18
J A Ormrod, run out .. 6
P A Neale, c E W Jones, b Moseley .. 16
Younis Ahmed, b Hobbs .. 80
E J O Hemsley, c Nash, b Hobbs .. 18
D N Patel, b Hobbs .. 6
†D J Humphries, b Hobbs .. 19
J Birkenshaw, c E W Jones, b Moseley .. 18
N Gifford, not out .. 16
J Cumbes, b Ontong .. 0
A P Pridgeon, b Hobbs .. 7
Extras (b 5, l-b 11, w 1, n-b 8) .. 25

Total (97.4 overs) .. 229

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—30, 2—30, 3—111, 4—158, 5—159, 6—164, 7—187, 8—212, 9—213, 10—229.

BOWLING: Nash, 9—1—31—0; Moseley, 25—7—41—3; Hobbs, 30.4—13—67—5; Lloyd, 15—3—30—0; Ontong, 18—4—33—1.

Bonus points: Worcestershire 5, Glamorgan 6.

Umpires: A Jepson and B Leadbeater.

Oxford U v Leicester

AT OXFORD

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings, 340 for 4 dec (B F Davison 75 not out, J F Steele 56).

Second Innings

N E Briers, b Mallett .. 51
*R W Tolchard, st Gordon-Walker b Taylor .. 55
J C Balderstone, b Taylor .. 0
T J Boon, b Mallett .. 0
P Booth, not out .. 9
D A Wenlock, b Taylor .. 0
J P Agnew, not out .. 0
Extras (l-b 2, n-b 2) .. 4

Total (5 wkts) .. 119

J F Steele, B F Davison, N G B Cook and G J Parsons to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—85, 2—99, 3—110, 4—118, 5—119.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings

R G P Ellis, l-b-w, b Booth .. 46
R A B Ezekowitz, l-b-w, b Cook .. 27
R S Cowan, c Steele, b Parsons .. 10
K A Hayes, l-b-w, b Agnew .. 11
*R P Moulding, b Parsons .. 0
J O D Orders, c Wenlock, b Cook .. 21
J J Rogers, c Cook, b Agnew .. 5
N V H Mallett, c Steele, b Wenlock .. 3
†R A Gordon-Walker, l-b-w, b Parsons .. 13
S P Ridge, not out .. 7
T J Taylor, l-b-w, b Cook .. 10
Extras (b 4, l-b 3, w 1, n-b 6) .. 14

Total (65.3 overs) .. 165

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—74, 2—81, 3—104, 4—104, 5—127, 6—128, 7—136, 8—136, 9—154, 10—165.

BOWLING: Agnew, 6—3—21—2; Parsons, 19—8—47—3; Cook, 19.3—8—44—3; Booth, 6—1—25—1; Wenlock, 8—3—10—1; Steele, 7—4—4—0.

Umpires: W L Budd and J Harris.

Other match

CAMBRIDGE: Cambridge University 272 for 2 (I G Peck 147 not out, T D W Edwards 55 not out) and 120 for 2 (Edwards 73 not out); MCC 276 for 8 dec (R J Lanchbury 118, C S Cowdrey 73).

Second XI competition

LLANDARCY: Yorkshire II 250 for 8 dec (P G Ingham 109) v Glamorgan.

SOUTH HAMPSTEAD: Middlesex II 249 for 9 dec (S Saunders 102 not out, P Halstead 66) and 97 for 5; Surrey II 153 (N Cowans 5 for 35).

CHELMSFORD: Essex II 298 (G Gladwin 109, M Marquis 70 and 140 for 6 (R Leiper 55); Kent II 188 (N Kemp 78, N Foster 6 for 66).

WELLINGBOROUGH: Northamptonshire II 78 and 134 for 4; Derbyshire II 318 for 8 (Anderson 98, Barnett 51, Oldham 51 not out).

MOSELEY: Warwickshire II 250 (A Warner 4 for 51) and 132 for 3 (G P Thomas 59 not out, A M Ferreira 60 not out); Worcestershire 198 (K R Maguire 4 for 49).

TAUNTON: Somerset II 201 for 5 dec (M Olive 85, R L Ollis 53); Nottinghamshire II 185 for 5 (P Johnson 71 not out).

Yorkshire's newest recruit steals Lever's thunder

By Keith Macklin

LEEDS: Yorkshire, with all second innings wickets intact, need 108 to avoid an innings defeat by Essex.

Having felt the morning sting of a rampant Lever Yorkshire painlessly extracted it in mid-afternoon and a substantial second innings stand by the opening pair stifled all conjecture about a humiliating innings defeat. Yorkshire, starting the day at a debilitating 16 for five, again found Lever at his most extrovert and hostile. With his third ball on a cool morning he removed the flailing Bairstow, and when he bowled Carrick, Yorkshire were 40 for seven.

Hampshire was at his most stubborn and responsible and he applied himself to the task of creating some semblance of order from chaos. This natural hitter was at the wicket for 163 minutes for an unbeaten 39 and found admirable support from Sidebottom who squared up to the Essex attack to such effect that the partnership produced 74 runs in 20 overs.

Old stayed for a little while with Hampshire, but Lever picked him off and after a short break for rain Stevenson played a shot of such crass irresponsibility that Hampshire must have felt like wringing his neck. Head up, arms loose, feet anchored, another swish and another catch behind. Lever finished with eight for 49 and equalled his career best analysis against Warwickshire two seasons ago.

Yorkshire were 225 behind as Lumb and Moxon came out once again to face Lever and Phillip.

The 21-year-old Moxon, the newest recruit from the Barnsley area, who wears contact lenses like his hero and compatriot Boycott, grew in confidence, and when the opening partnership reached 80 it was the highest first wicket stand for Yorkshire in first class matches this season. Moxon off drove Lever for a single, and the Yorkshire members rose to salute a splendid and mature innings from a young batsman playing his first championship game.

It was dour, dedicated, effective batting and the hundred partnership came up in the forty-eighth over without a chance being given by either batsmen.

ESSEX: First Innings, 354 for 8 dec (K R Pont 89; A Sidebottom 4 for 44).

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

R G Lumb, c Smith, b Lever .. 0
M D Moxon, c Hardie, b Lever .. 5
C W J Athey, l-b-w, b Turner .. 0
J P Whiteley, c Fletcher, b Turner .. 7
J H Hampshire, not out .. 39
S N Hartley, l-b-w, b Lever .. 1
†D L Bairstow, c Smith, b Lever .. 0
P Carrick, b Lever .. 5
A Sidebottom, c Hardie, b Lever .. 45
*C M Old, c Turner, b Lever .. 16
G B Stevenson, c Smith, b Lever .. 2
Extras (l-b 8, n-b 1) .. 9

Total (54.1 overs) .. 129

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—5, 2—6, 3—10, 4—13, 5—16, 6—16, 7—33, 8—107, 9—126, 10—129.

BOWLING: Lever, 21.1—9—49—8; Phillip, 8—2—25—0; Turner, 20—9—16—2; Pont, 3—0—19—0; Acfield, 2—0—11—0.

Second Innings

R G Lumb, not out .. 50
M D Moxon, not out .. 63
Extras (l-b 4) .. 4

Total (no wkt) .. 117

Bonus Points: Yorkshire 3, Essex 8.

Umpires: R Julian and R S Herman.

Minor counties

BURTON-ON-TRENT: Shropshire 319 for 5 dec and 262 for 4 dec (J S Johnson 108, D Williamson 62); Staffordshire 216 for 7 and 167 for 6 (N J Archer 73 not out). Match drawn.

Left-arm spin of Childs pegs back leaders

John Childs of Gloucestershire produced a devastating spell of left-arm spin bowling to peg back the championship leaders Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge. On a helpful pitch, Childs took four for six in 27 balls, for final figures of five for 73.

His bowling came to Gloucester's rescue after the Notts openers Todd (96) and Robinson (60) had put on 163.

Procter chipped in with four for 45 as 10 wickets fell for the addition of 99. But on a day of mixed fortunes, Notts struck back and had Gloucester in trouble on 72 for three—a lead of 10—when bad light ended play early.

Larkins struck a superb 157 in 262 minutes to put Northamptonshire into a strong position against Warwickshire at Edgbaston.

Larkins obtained 26 fours and two sixes during the course of two century partnerships. His contribution enabled Northants to declare at 325 for seven off 99.3 overs—a first innings lead of 88.

He put on 112 with Cook for the first wicket and added another 123 with Williams for the second before he was third out with the score on 240. Larkins's departure coincided with a mini collapse that saw three wickets fall in the space of three overs.

After declaring at their overnight total of 360 for six and then taking three Somerset wickets for 53, Sussex looked in a commanding position in their championship match, sponsored by Scheweppes, at Hove. However, a fourth-wicket stand of 103 and some powerful hitting by Garner enabled the visitors to reach 272 for nine off 83.4 overs.

Sussex v Somerset

AT HOVE

SUSSEX: First Innings, 360 for 6 dec. (P W G Parker 106, T D Booth Jones 95, Imran Khan 74; Bowling: Garner, 22—9—37—0; Moseley, 33—6—71—3; Dredge, 29—4—93—1; Richards, 1—0—10—0; Breakwell, 18—3—52—0; Marks, 25—6—83—2.

SOMERSET: First Innings

*B C Rose, l-b-w, b Arnold .. 15
J W Lloyds, c Barclay, b Imran .. 24
I V A Richards, c Gould, b Imran .. 15
P M Roebuck, l-b-w, b le Roux .. 51
P W Denning, l-b-w, b Barclay .. 79
V J Marks, c Phillipson, b le Roux .. 3
†D J S Taylor, not out .. 44
D Breakwell, b Imran .. 3
J Garner, c Imran, b Arnold .. 32
C H Dredge, b Arnold .. 0
H R Moseley, not out .. 0
Extras (l-b 6, n-b 1) .. 7

Total (9 wkts, 83.4 overs) .. 272

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—38, 2—41, 3—53, 4—156, 5—156, 6—164, 7—173, 8—264, 9—265.

Bonus points (to date): Sussex 6, Somerset 4.

Umpires: D Shackleton and C T Spencer.

Warwicks v Northants

AT BIRMINGHAM

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings, 237 (C Maynard 70; R G Williams 4 for 32).

Second Innings

*D L Amiss, not out .. 16
K D Smith, not out .. 2

Total (no wkts) .. 18

T A Lloyd, A I Kallicharran, M A Din, †C Maynard, S J Rouse, G C Small, W Hogg, S P Perryman and D R Doshi to bat.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

*G Cook, c Kallicharran, b Perryman .. 43
W Larkins, c Maynard, b Small .. 157
R G Williams, c Maynard, b Small .. 30
A J Lamb, c Maynard, b Rouse .. 7
T J Yardley, c Maynard, b Small .. 0
R M Tindall, not out .. 32
R M Carter, b Perryman .. 10
†G Sharp, b Rouse .. 16
Extras (b 1, l-b 9, w 3, n-b 7) .. 20

Total (7 wkts dec 99.3 overs) .. 325

N A Mallender, T M Lamb and B J Griffiths did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—112, 2—235, 3—240, 4—240, 5—255, 6—270, 7—325.

BOWLING: Hogg, 20—7—44—0; Small, 19—4—68—3; Doshi, 27—12—72—0; Perryman, 19—6—76—2; Rouse, 14.3—4—46—2.

Bonus points: Warwickshire 5, Northamptonshire 7.

Umpires: D J Constant and A G T Whitehead.

In Warwickshire first innings against Northamptonshire, D R Doshi was caught Sharpe, bowled Williams for three runs, not bowled Williams.

Today's cricket

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0)
BASINGSTOKE: Hampshire v Middlesex.
MANCHESTER: Lancashire v Surrey.
NOTTINGHAM: Nottinghamshire v Gloucestershire.
HOVE: Sussex v Somerset.
BIRMINGHAM: Warwickshire v Northamptonshire.
HEREFORD: Worcestershire v Glamorgan.
LEEDS: Yorkshire v Essex.

OTHER MATCH
OXFORD: Oxford University v Leicestershire.

SECOND XI COMPETITION
CHELMSFORD: Essex II v Kent II.
LLANDARCY: Glamorgan II v Yorkshire II.
BOURNEMOUTH: Hampshire II v Sussex II.
SOUTH HAMPSTEAD: Middlesex II v Surrey II.
REDWELL: Wellingborough: Northamptonshire II v Derbyshire II.
TAUNTON: Somerset II v Nottinghamshire II.
MOSELEY: Warwickshire II v Worcestershire II.

Rugby Union

England and Argentina both remain unchanged

From Peter West
Rugby Correspondent
Buenos Aires, June 4

England and Argentina will play the second international here on Saturday with the same teams as those which drew the first one 19—19 last weekend. When announcing that they would stick by their original selections, Derek Morgan, the England manager, said they felt more confident now that they had seen the Pumas in action, and so knew what to expect.

"We know our backs can play better than they did last week," he added. "If the skipper's luck holds, we'll get the right result." Mr Morgan was referring to Bill Beaumont's success at the races last night when he won £200. England's management is more buoyant than it was at the same time last week, in spite of the hiccoughs against a spirited provincial side at Rosario on Tuesday.

Seven days ago it was counting up the walking wounded and wondering how many would start. Now there are no serious worries, although John Scott is having another check up for his ear troubles as well as a precautionary X-ray examination on his ankle and Woodward has been dive-bombed by mosquitoes. Scott has been able to do little or no training here but has always risen to the occasion on match days.

There may have been some longer debate about the blind side flank positions in which Jeavons was not at his best on Tuesday. A young Adonis of exciting potential, he still has to work at the grafting chores when things are going wrong. But he is one of those who enjoys the big challenge and the selectors are impressed by what he can offer behind an organized platform.

I believe England retain the best balance at loose forward but Bob Hesford, and David Cooke must feel unlucky to "miss the out". Steve Mills, whose throwing in has been consistently accurate, and John Fidler will earn their second caps.

Scott and Steve Smith will make their 20th appearances, the captain his 32nd. It will take Beaumont beyond the famous name of W. W. Wakefield in the all-time England list and leave him standing behind "Budge" Rogers, with 34; David Duckham, 36, John Pullin, 42, and Tony Neary, 43. In my last match report I should have given him more credit for yet another stirling performance, if not perhaps for his appreciation of what was required tactically when things started to go wrong.

Argentina have scotched local speculation by retaining Landajo and Cappaletti at scrum half and left wing. Their coach, Luis Gradin, says all his players deserved another game because "there were no individual failures, only a lack of concentration". England's forwards made life difficult for Landajo.

Quinn brought back by Ireland

Durban, June 4.—Ireland, seeking to end a run of five internationals without a win, today recalled Mickey Quinn as stand-off half for Saturday's second international against the Springboks. Quinn arrived in South Africa only on Monday as a replacement for the injured Campbell and played in Tuesday's 51—10 victory over a Gold Cup XV.

The 28-year-old utility back teams up with McGrath behind the scrum. McGrath was his partner the last time he played for Ireland in 1977. Dean, stand-off in the 23—15 first international defeat, goes to centre. Quinn caused a scare in the Irish camp when he woke up today with a stiff back, but a doctor diagnosed it as only a slight muscle strain and he joined the squad for training.

IRISH XV: K O'Brien; F McLennan, P Dean, D Irwin, T Kennedy; M Quinn, R McGrath; P Orr, J Cantrell, G McLoughlin, B Foley, J Holland, J O'Driscoll, F Slattery (capt), W Duggan.—Reuter.

Scotland hint at side to face All Blacks

From Iain Mackenzie
Christchurch, June 4

Scotland have given a clear indication of the XV which will meet New Zealand in Dunedin a week on Saturday in the first of their two internationals on this tour. Only four changes have been made to the side which beat Wairarapa Bush 32-9 at Masterton yesterday for the game with Canterbury this Saturday.

One of those has been forced on the Scottish management. Tom Smith, the Gala lock, has once again fallen victim to injury and his place has been taken by the British Lion, Alan Tomes. Smith left the field with a torn calf muscle ten minutes from the end of yesterday's match and could not train with the rest of the squad today.

Nor did two others. Roy Laidlaw, who will play against Canterbury because Alan Lawson has not yet arrived and in any case could hardly be expected to turn out with jet lag, is still suffering the effects of a slight groin strain. Iain Paxton took a head knock in Masterton and while he, too, will face Canterbury he rested during the training session.

It is not surprising that Jim Renwick will replace Richard Breakey in the centre. Despite his try against Wairarapa Bush, Breakey had a miserable game and in any case when Dods is absent the Scots need both Irvine and Renwick as kickers; Irvine can seem almost cross-eyed at times in front of the dead ball when the wrong mood is upon him.

Scotland have not missed the point that Canterbury field a XV including five All Blacks in prop John Ashworth, lock Graeme Higginson, scrum half Steve Scott, and centres Kiernan Keane and Vic Simpson. Canterbury are renowned as one of the hardest regional sides in New Zealand, as the British Lions will testify, and if Scotland can win they will be halfway towards victory over the national side.

SCOTTISH XV: A Irvine (captain); B Hay, A Cranston, J Renwick, S Munro; J Rutherford, R Laidlaw; J Aitken, C Deans, R Milne, W Cuthbertson, A Tomes, D Leslie, J Calder, I Paxton.

Bowls

Foreigners wiser at Worthing

By Gordon Allan

The fourth Kodak masters bowls tournament starts at Beach House Park, Worthing, today and ends on Sunday. Bill Moseley (South Africa) defends the title he won last year and the opposition includes David McGill (Scotland), who was runner-up, and David Bryant (England, the current world champion, who was third.

The other contestants are Doug Watson (South Africa), who won the world championship in 1976, Ken Williams (Australia), Peter Bellis (New Zealand), Gwyn Evans (Wales), and Joe Rogan (Ireland), at 21 the youngest man on the green.

The overseas players have been finding out about the slower British greens in their matches for the Rest of the World

GROUP 1: Moseley v Evans, McGill v Williams. Group 2: Bryant v Rogan, Watson v Bellis.

Athletics

World record holders join England

Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett were both named yesterday in England's team for Sunday's athletics international against Ethiopia, Italy and Scotland, at Gateshead. Coe will run the 800 metres and Ovett the mile—their world record distances. In addition, Coe is in England's team for the 4 x 400 metres relay.

The announcement follows their victories in Wednesday night's international against Ethiopia, the United States and Belgium, at Crystal Palace. Neither was originally named in the England side for Sunday's match.

Coe's inclusion at 800 metres suggests that, conditions permitting, he could make an attempt on his own world record of one minute 42.4 seconds, established in Oslo two years ago. His opponents could include the Italian, Carlo Grippo, whose world indoor 800 metres record he broke at Cosford four month ago.

Allan Wells, the Olympic 100 metres champion, is in Scotland's side for Sunday's sprint relay. But Daley Thompson, who won the decathlon gold medal in Moscow is injured. Julian Goater, Barry Smith and Geoff Smith have been added to the Citizen Golden 5,000 metres which will be on Sunday. England's two representatives counting for match points are David Moorcroft and Nick Rose.

Coe again triumphed over adversity in the 800 metres victory at Crystal Palace on Wednesday night.

Last summer, Coe overcame defeat in the Olympic 800 metres, and claimed the 1,500 metres title. This time, he had the shock of hearing that he was alleged to be at the centre of a £7,000 deal to run at a Paris invitation meeting.

The news was broken to him an hour before the race, but he stormed home with a burst that proved he is ready for another good year. After returning 1min 44.06sec, Coe denied the allegations made in a French newspaper, that an agent had been acting for him and said he would not now be running in Paris.

Coe, therefore, is ready to accept an invitation to run for Britain against West Germany and Poland, at Crystal Palace on June 23 and 24. It was on the second day of this match that the British Amateur Athletic Board had given him approval to run over 1,000 metres in France.

Mark Holtom and Martin Girvan, Northern Ireland hammer record holder, are in a strong Wolverhampton and Bilston team for the European Club athletics championships in Belgrade over the weekend.

Polo

Falcons clear another hurdle

By John Watson

First on to Smith's Lawn, Windsor, yesterday, for the semi-final round of the Rothmans Trophy, sponsored by Dunhill, were Alex Ebeid's team, the Falcons, who aggregate the top 22-goal handicap and Westcroft Park, who, totalling only 18, started the match two goals ahead. But the result was 14—3 in favour of the Falcons.

In the second match Ipanema drew quickly ahead of BBs and finished with an 8—4 victory.

FALCONS: 1, A Ebeid (1), 2, G Pieres (9), 3, H Merlos (9), back: P Elliott (3).

WESTCROFT PARK: 1, T Mann (5), 2, P Churchward (5), 3, P Davies (7), back: M Brown (3).

IPANEMA: 1, O Ellis (4), 2, A Pieres (6), 3, H Crotto (9), back: R de Lima (3).

BBs: 1, M Keuper (4), 2, M Junquiera (6), 3, A Palma (5), back: A Diniz (7).

Yachting

Loujaine the winner after inquiry

By John Nicholls

Loujaine, owned by Sir Maurice Laing, has been declared the winner of the de Guingand Bowl as the result of an inquiry into events during the race on May 16. A special committee of the Royal Ocean Racing Club, organizers of the race, examined requests for redress by yachts which rendered assistance to others in distress. Loujaine spent 28 minutes standing by the dismasted Caiman II (G. Jeelof), and Strike III (B. Howard) 35 minutes standing by Quailo (D. Parr), also dismasted.

Both stand-by yachts were compensated for fulfilling their obligations to others in possible danger by a suitable time allowance deducted from their elapsed times over the course. On corrected time, therefore, Loujaine was the overall winner of the race by about 10 minutes from Rakau (C. Lowson and B. Ferris), the provisional winner until the hearing. Strike III improved her position to fifth place in Class III.

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Mets 6, Philadelphia Phillies 2; Pittsburgh Pirates 3, Chicago Cubs 2; St Louis Cardinals 3, Montreal Expos 1; Houston Astros 4, San Diego Padres 1; Atlanta Braves 4, Los Angeles Dodgers 2; Cincinnati Reds 6, San Francisco Giants 2.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland Indians 4, Boston Red Sox 1; Detroit Tigers 3, Milwaukee Brewers 1; California Angels 17, Toronto Blue Jays 6; Texas Rangers 6, Minnesota Twins 5; New York Yankees 2, Baltimore Orioles 0; Kansas City Royals 12, Seattle Mariners 4; Oakland Athletics 8, Chicago White Sox 3.

Motor rallying

ATHENS: Acropolis rally final positions: 1, A Vatanen (Finland), Ford Escort RS, 13hrs 17min 25sec; 2, M Alen (Finland), Fiat 131 AR, 13:22:03; 3, A Bettega (Italy), Fiat 131 AR, 13:40:19.

Racing

Master Willie's ambitious plan

By Michael Phillips
Racing correspondent

Master Willie reaped rich consolation for his luckless experience in and before last year's Derby when he won the Coronation Cup at Epsom yesterday to give his trainer, Henry Candy and jockey, Philip Waldron, their most important success to date. Now Master Willie may try to emulate Royal Palace and that horse's sire, Ballymoss, the last two horses to win the Coronation Cup, the Eclipse Stakes and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in the same season.

Coral's who sponsor the Eclipse nowadays, have opened an ante-post book on their race at Sandown and Master Willie is favourite at 3-1. You can get 5-1 with the same firm against his winning the 'Diamond Race' at Ascot, which looks like being Shergar's first big test against older horses and the race which will confirm for once and for all in the senior handicapper's mind that he is entitled to be rated in the superstar league.

For a short while yesterday Coral's were prepared to lay 5-2 against the hero of the Derby putting his seniors in their place at Ascot in July but their generosity lasted for only a short time and by the end of the day, sheer weight of money had forced them to revise their assessment and cut Shergar's price to 7-4.

But even that is generous when you realise that the other leading firms in the bookmaking business are not prepared to offer even odds against Shergar winning the Ascot spectacular.

In the circumstances I will be more than mildly surprised if Coral's offer of 7-4 lasts very long this morning. Although the course had dried a bit in the 24 hours that had elapsed since the Derby, Master Willie's time was as unspectacular as Shergar's. But that can be attributed to the famous pace at which the race was run for the first furlong. Realising that it was much too slow for comfort and liable to turn the race into a farce if it continued any longer, Waldron wisely kicked Master Willie into the lead and made the rest of the running at a much more sensible gallop.

He must have been four lengths ahead of Prince Bee and Vielle halfway up the straight but by the time that he passed the winning post, Prince Bee had whittled his advantage down to two lengths. But in all fairness to Master Willie not before Waldron had decided that he had the race sewn up and dropped his hands.

This was an encouraging performance from Prince Bee, who was having his first race of the season. He has matured and developed into a magnificent looking thoroughbred since last year but one look at him in the paddock yesterday confirmed the feeling that the race would do him a power of good because at home he is a lethargic individual.

In contrast Master Willie looked fit to run as if his life depended on the outcome. The Hardwicke Stakes, on the fourth and last day of Royal Ascot, is the next race on Prince Bee's agenda, and there he will encounter Master Willie's stable and galloping companion, Nicholas Bill.

Henbit, a stable and galloping companion of Prince Bee and of course the hero of the Derby last year, is likely to run next in the Grand Prix de St Cloud, provided that "he goes on pleasing me the way he has recently" to quote his trainer Dick Hern, who went on to say that there is still just a possibility that Shoot A Line, that good filly last year, will be in the line-up for the Ascot Gold Cup.

Apart from Rankin, whose finish tailed off yesterday, the big disappointment of the race was Mrs Penny, who was never at ease and according to her rider, John Matthias, completely unable to cope with the unique problems posed by Epsom's gradients and undulations. Her trainer, Ian Balding did not conceal his disappointment afterwards because he was looking for a really good run from Mrs Penny to bolster his hopes of winning the Oaks tomorrow with her galloping companion Leap Lively, but sadly that encouragement was not forthcoming.

Balding still intends taking Mrs Penny to Royal Ascot where she will either take Prince Bee on again in the Hardwicke Stakes or run in the Prince of Wales Stakes earlier in the meeting.

And so to today's programme at Epsom, which is the least interesting of the four. Ballytop missed the big race yesterday especially to wait for the Northern Dancer Handicap Stakes. A win for this four-year-old on this particular day would be singularly appropriate simply because his owner is a Canadian and there is a Canadian flavour attached to all the races. Ballytop has won his last two races nicely enough yet I cannot help wondering whether even he will manage to beat Path of Peace, who also has been on target of late. Path of Peace excelled in a gallop at Middleham recently with Shotgun, his stable companion, who finished fourth in the Derby.

Ridgefield, my selection for the Sun Life of Canada Stakes, has a good chance of winning again now that he is in the handicap. He was blatantly out of his depth in the Lingfield Derby Trial his last race. Before that, Ridgefield had run well enough at Leicester, Kempton Park and Ascot



Master Willie (right) winning the Coronation Cup from Prince Bee (centre) and Vielle

American at Epsom lands a double

By Michael Seely

Apart from the Coronation Cup Steve Cauthen was the man in form at Epsom yesterday. The American jockey landed a double by winning the Sean Graham Handicap Stakes on Master Golfer for John Sutcliffe and the Nightingale Stakes on the 11-8 favourite Fandango Time for Barry Hills.

Master Golfer started at 7-1 in the market but the stewards held an inquiry into the three-year-old's form compared with his show earlier in the season. Master Golfer had only finished eighth of ten behind Beelzebub in the Esher Cup at Sandown Park on April 25. The authorities accepted the trainer's explanation that Master Golfer had been badly outpaced in the early stages on that occasion and that the gelding had improved considerably in the intervening five weeks.

Sutcliffe had earlier saddled his first winner of the afternoon when Pat Eddery had ridden La Mascotte to a narrow win over Ta Morgan in the Egmont selling stakes. The three-year-old attracted no bid at the subsequent auction. At the finish Cauthen's second winner, Fandango Time, had four lengths to spare over the runner-up Football. But there had been an anxious moment two furlongs from home when the favourite had appeared unlikely to go through with his effort. "Fandango Time is still very green and was unsuited by the track", Hills said, "but he will improve with racing and hopefully go on to better things."

Lester Piggott and Henry Cecil had another two-year-old winner when the maestro drove the favourite, Algardi past Little Robert in the final strides of the Staff Ingham Stakes. There was a stewards' inquiry after the race but it did not concern the winner. But Little Robert and Ford Carry, who was denied a clear run at a vital stage of the race.

The mile and a half Rosebery Stakes resulted in a victory for Cima, who was winning his fourth race from five starts this season for Jim Old. Royal Vulcan looked home and dry a furlong from home but Cima's late attack proved too strong. Old said that Cima would now go for either the King George VI or Churchill Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Walter Swinburn was fined £50 by the clerk of the scales, Charles Gregory the day before for weighing out in a light pair of boots in order to pass the scales at 8-2, to enable him to ride Iskandarour in the Daily Mirror Handicap. And after this Swinburn changed into a heavier and more comfortable pair of boots.

The fine was only imposed yesterday by the stewards, who considered that there was enough pressure on Swinburn, who was just about to ride Shergar in the Derby. By all accounts this is a trick of the trade which many jockeys have got away with in the past.

At Catterick Bridge today Gavin Pritchard-Gordon could well provide the best bet of the day with Huppel in the Merrybent Stakes. Huppel and George Duffield showed a fine turn of foot when successful at Pontefract in the Websters Pontine mile championship (second qualifier) and that form reads superior to that of his opponents today.

Also at Catterick I like the chance of Ring Moylan in the Burtonwood Brewery Handicap. Ring Moylan escaped a penalty for winning an apprentice handicap recently and should make the most of the 17lb he received from Henry Cecil's triple winner, Barwin.

The well handicapped Obergurgl still looks the pick of the weights in the Croft Handicap despite his defeat when only third to St Ha— in soft ground recently. Obergurgl's rider Edward Hide could well complete a treble by winning the Jervaulx Handicap on Khaleel, who was also unsuited by the soft ground when unplaced at Doncaster last week.

Horses swap their names

The Jockey Club are to hold an inquiry into a mix-up which led to two horses running in each other's name during the flat season. The Stewards have established that Sister Kitty, second at Folkestone in April and unplaced twice since, and Myra's Pet, unplaced in both her races, have run in each other's names.

They were then trained by Ron Smyth at Epsom but were recently transferred to a Newmarket handler, Robert Williams. Williams said yesterday that he noticed a discrepancy between the horses and the markings given on their passports when they arrived at his stable last month.

He had previously had dealings with Sister Kitty when he was assistant to Barry Hills, who trained the filly as a two-year-old. Smyth was understandably reticent about the matter but said: "It was one of those unfortunate things that just happened." A Jockey Club spokesman said: "When inquiries are completed into the use of passports in this case, the disciplinary committee will hold an inquiry."

Golf

Carr plays on in the shadow of his father

By Peter Ryde

The Amateur golf championship, reduced at St Andrews to the last eight, gave the impression yesterday of being split into two halves. In the top half there were no Americans, but an interesting, if unexpected, quartet made it to the quarter-finals, headed by the irrepressible John Carr, who is playing in his first Amateur on a course he has never seen before.

He is a faint reminder of his father, Joe, who yesterday kept an discreet distance, attending to duties as a selector. John adopts that aggressive crouch and produces touch shots telling us that golf flows strongly in the veins of another Carr.

After brushing aside one of the last South Africans, van Niekirk, Carr recovered from a bad start against Godwin which left him three down at the sixth. He was still two down with five to play but Godwin, an English Walker Cup player, let him in by taking six at the 14th and 17th. Missing from four feet for the match at the 18th was about the only sign that Carr gave that he found golf at all difficult and, at the 21st, he holed a curling putt of 15ft to win.

Today he plays Malcolm Lewis, who had one of his best performances, keeping close to par, especially in defeating the French champion, Francois Illouz. Illouz is surely adding to his reputation and making good use of a sports scholarship at Basle. It may be significant that Colin Dalgleish, the sole remaining Scot, is at Stirling University, also on a sports bursary.

Peter Deeble nearly had a triumphant day. His victory over John Davies was not only a delight but entirely merited. It contained only two blemishes by Davies, the first when he lost a ball at the second.

Deeble, his swing and putting as good as they have ever been, finally took the lead when he punched a four iron to 10ft at the 16th and holed for a birdie. Davies, always ready to attack, bored his approach through the wind at the 17th, but it was too big and bounced on to the road out of bounds.

Deeble needed a four to come back in 34 and, in the afternoon against Philippe Ploujoux, of France, he was level par but could make no impression. Ploujoux, a dazzling putter when in the mood, was brought back to all-square at the eighth but then scored three birdies from the ninth to resume command. Although Deeble won back the 13th and 15th in par, the Frenchman hung on.

In the lower half, the Americans were in force at the beginning of the day but it was Tony Gresham, an Australian and the one remaining seed, who emerged to dominate that part of the field. He is 42 and has played in seven consecutive Eisenhower Trophy matches. However, the few and relatively unknown Britons gave a splendid account of themselves and Dunsire, who lives near London but has Scottish parents, galloped into the quarter-finals in his first appearance with a five and four victory over Sherborne.

FOURTH ROUND: C Godwin 1 hole [illegible] 3 and 2 T Lamb; D Dubois (US) 3 and 2 R Gaiser jnr (US); A Lyddon 3 and 2 J Brodie (US); T Randolph jnr (US) 5 and 4 A Stubbs; G Dunsire 21st D Suddards (SA).

FIFTH ROUND: Carr 21st Godwin; Lewis 4 and 3 Illouz; Ploujoux 1 hole Deeble; Dalgleish 3 and 1 Curry; Gresham 19th Kelley; Dunsire 5 and 4 Sherborne; Hirsch 3 and 2 Dubois; Randolph 2 holes Lyddon.

Two Scots offer prospect of a place in the records

By John Hennessy
Golf Correspondent

Two Scots among the eight survivors in the British women's amateur golfchampionship at the Caernarvonshire Club, Conway, offer the extraordinary prospect of providing either the oldest winner of the title or the youngest.

Belle Robertson, at 45, would surpass the 1958 champion, Jessie Valentine(yet another Scot, the tournament teems with them) by two years. Pamela Wright, at 16, would bea year younger than an Irish intruder dredged from the musty records of the past, May Hezlitt, in 1899.

If Mrs Robertson and Miss Wright win their third round matches this morning, they will face each other in the faternoon. Their opponents are, respectively, Marta Figueras-Dotti, of Spain, and laine Hourihane, of Ireland. The other matches this morning are Viveca Hoff (Sweden) against Marina Buscaini (Italy) and Wilma Aitken (Scotland) against Vicki Thomas(Wales.

Miss Wright, daughter of the Aboyne professional and a legendary character in Scottish women's golf, Janette Robertson, beat Deborah Dowling, one of the few English qualifiers, by 4 and 3 in the morning, and Regine Lautens of Switzerland, by 2 and 1 in the afternoon. In common with most others she played her best golf in the morning and was only two over par for the holes played against Miss Dowling.

In the afternoon the barometer in the clubhouse took a nose dive. The wind grew stronger and colder and for an hour or so the rain whipped into the players' faces like hailstones. It was then that the slim young Scot had difficulty in controlling her game and she went three down after seven holes.

"There", she said afterwards, "I pulled myself together." with a little bit of help from her opponent. A par five was good enough to win the eighth, when Miss Lautens drove into the thick rough and she picked off the tenth, where the Swiss could not find the fairway no matter which club she tried.

Three halves followed before Miss Wright struck a purple sequence of 3, 5, 4, 2, to win on the 17th. Her eight-iron tee shot at that hole offered her a 12ft put and she pu it away with the confidence of inspired youth.

Audrey Briggs, the all-smiling, all-talking winner of any popularity contest in Wales, had the distinction of putting out the favourite Edwina Kennedy of Ausralia, in the first round. Miss Kennedy's power seemed likely to be decisive earlier on, but she was brought back to all square by a long putt on the 12th and then struck three damaging tee shots in a row from the 14th. Mrs Briggs surrendered on the 18th green to Miss Hoff in the afternoon.

FIRST ROUND: B Robertson 7 and 6 J Rumsey; C Mourgue d'Algue (France) 2 and 1 S Ferlito (Italy); F Dassu (Italy) 4 and 3 A Albox (Spain); R Lautens (Switzerland) 20th A Norman; P Wright 4 and 3 D Dowling; Dr M Richmond 19th M McKenna; C Hourihane 3 and 2 F Anderson.

M Buscaini (Italy) 3 and 1 C Cald- (Australia); V Hoff (Sweden) 3 and 1 well; J Melville 1 hole P Edmunds S Gorman; A Briggs 3 and 2 E Kennedy (Australia); V Thomas 4 and 3 H Hagstrom (Sweden); M Wennersten (Sweden) 20th D Hutton (Australia); W Aitken 3 and 1 Dr G Costelly; G Stewart 5 and 3 P Tolomei (Italy).

SECOND ROUND: Mrs Robertson 4 and 3 Mrs Mourgue d'Algue; Miss Figueras-Dotti 2 and 1 Miss Dassu; Miss Wright 2 and 1 Miss Lauten; Miss Hourihane 4 and 3 Dr Richmond; Mrs Buscaini 2 and 1 Miss Melville; Miss Hoff 2 holes Mrs Briggs; Miss Aitken 3 and 2 Miss Stewart; Mrs Thomas 2 and 1 Mis Wennerstein.

Martin ignores the squalls and leads by one stroke

Steve Martin will hope on many occasions in the future to produce the nuality of golf which enabled him to compile a round of 67, four under par, in the first round of the £60,000 Lawrence Batley International tournament at Bingley St Ives yesterday. However, it seems unlikely that he will regularly surpass the consistency he displayed to move one stroke ahead of Neil Coles and two in front of a group which includes Lon Hinkle, of the United States.

This, in no way, should be taken as a detrimental remark towards the young, bespectacled Martin. For he deserves nothing but credit as being the only player among the field of 138 not to sign for a single score of more than par on his card. When one realizes that Coles, one of the most if not the most consistent players on the tour, had a mixture of scores which included eight birdies for his 68 it is realized what kind of day it was in Yorkshire.

To Martin, however, the whipping winds and the regular squalls which protected this gentle 6,426 yards municipal course, held no fear. He was brought up at Carnoustie and it is significant that his best performance was in Jersey exactly 12 months ago when gale-force winds prevented not one professional finishing with an under-par aggregate.

A three iron tee shot at the first hole (190yds) which finished four feet from the hole, set the pattern for Martin and he went merrily along his way. Collecting another three birdies, before giving himself his only moment of anxiety at the last hole. Like the first it measures 190 yards, but it is played downhill from a plateau tee and with the wind blowing from right to left it made for a precarious tee shot. Martin pulled his slightly, the wind took over and the ball struck the grandstand. He deserved one slice of good fortune and so it was for the ball ricochetted close to the front of the green although Martin did the rest by eventually holing a very good putt from 10 feet to keep his score intact.

Leading scores

67: S Martin.
68: N Coles.
69: T Minshall, L Hinkle (US), L Farmer.
70: G Cunningham, A Payne, S Lyle.
71: N Ratcliffe (Australia), N Faldo, D Jagger, B Longmuir, D Jones, P Elson, I Mosey.
72: A Chandler, J Heggarty, G Brand, E Murray, K Brown.
73: B Gallacher, H Balocchi (SA), P Carrigill, D Williams, A Murray, S Bennett, A D Jacklin, P Cowen, M Piñero (Spain), D Smyth.
74: P Tupling, K Waters, R Fischer (Mexico), T Horton, M Thomas, R Drummond, A Garrido (Spain), M Miller, J Fowler, M Garcia (Spain), H Clark, J Downie, G Manson, M Bembridge, J Garner, H Henning (SA).
75: G Cullen, J Hall, P Bradley, D Chillas, S Ginn (Australia), M Foster, B Lincoln (SA), P Thomas, D Murphy, D Vaughan, I Dryden.
76: N Hunt, P Hoad, K Ashdown, C Mason, J Plaxton, G Wilson, B Sharrock, M Steadman, P Harrison, M Manelli (Italy), B Barnes, K Williams, C O'Connor, jnr, D Reagan, B Dassu (Italy), J Bland (SA), G Burroughs, M Poxon, R Peters, T Powell, M Ingham, J Morgan, M McNulty (Zimbabwe), M Gregson.
77: D Stirling, J Farmer, N Burch, J Purcell, S Rolley, J Dryden, G Birch, D Robertson, A Dow, G Mueller (Sweden).
78: P Townsend, B Waites, J Harrison, W McColl, A Swaine, J Hay, P Dawson, A Bickerdike.
79: M Slater, M King, G Potter, S Rooke, T Johnston (Zimbabwe), V Waters, M Latham, I Woosnam, G Harvey, J Hoskison, N Job.
80: M James, D Thorp.
81: B Marchbank.
83: M Brown.

Equestrianism

Pyrah masters conditions on a testing course

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Malcolm Pyrah and Thomas Hunnable's Towerlands Anglezarke triumphed against rain, a high wind and Alan Oliver's testing course at the Royal Bath and West Show at Shepton Mallett yesterday. The last to jump in the final involving eight horses, they won the Babycham Gold Cup more or less as they pleased. They had covered themselves with glory in April when they won the third and final leg of the World Cup, with the only double clear round, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

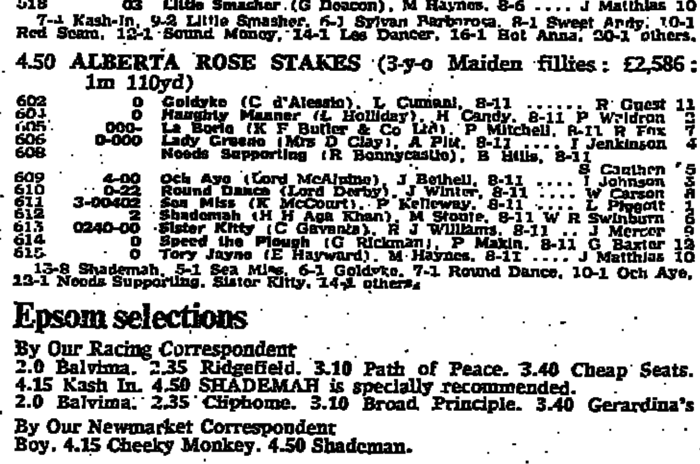
John Brown, the shining hope of Scotland, set a fast target of 44.9sec on Our Gaytime, who sacrificed accuracy for speed and flattened the last fence. Then Lionel Dunning pulled off the first clear round on Jungle. Bunny, whose time of 52.1sec was immediately bettered by Graham Fletcher with Treachan (51.3sec), Nick Skelton on St James (48.4) and Anglezarke (48.2). David Broome (Mr Ross), his sister Elizabeth Edgar (Forever) and Fred Welch, Wednesday's winner, finished down the course.

In the show ring, another head to fall was that of the hack, Tenterk, who has ruled the roost for six seasions, five of them with Robert Oliver. He won his class without too much difficulty, but in the championship, Mrs Richard Cooper selected the winning novice, Mrs Peter Russell Wood's five-year-old Secret Agent, by Floriana, a promising new face, ridden and produced by Stella Harries.

Under Bertie Hill, the former trainer to the British three-day event team, a strong class of cobs was won by that excellent bay Royalist.

Strong British team. Richard Meade and Captain Mark Phillips are in a strong British team to compete in a three-day event in the Netherlands, starting today. The other two riders are Richard Walker and Colin Wares.

Epsom programme



[TELEVISION (ITV): 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races]

2.0 CANADA HOUSE HANDICAP (£3,830 : 5f)

101 004-210 Son of Shaka (D) (Mrs M Slade), H Price, 5-10-0 B Rouse 1
102 1132-4 Pontin Lad (CD) (Pontin Holidays), Thomson Jones, 3-9-9 P Cook 3
104 10-4040 Sandra's Secret (D) (J Dooley), R Whitaker, 4-9-0 L Piggott 7
105 040-000 St Terramar (CD, B) (G Bates), W Guest, 6-8-13 R Cochrane 3 2
107 20-0003 Balvima (D) (Mrs M Moody), A Dalton, 5-8-11 G Starkey 6
109 100-100 Dafydd (CD) (D Brown), S Norton, 5-8-10 B Crossley 5 4
111 301104 Belfort (D) (J Watson), M McCourt, 4-8-2 J Reid 5
113 00003-0 Manilow (D) (A Leader), B Swift, 4-7-12 M Thomas 11
114 000-003 Zedative (D) (A Richards), C Austin, 4-7-9 W Carson 8
115 001000 Star of Enzo (D) (M Siragusa), T Marshall, 3-7-7 D Mackay 9
116 3010-04 Jack Splendid (D) (Mrs J Hinds-Dedman), J Holt, 6-7-7 W Newnes 3 10

5-2 Pontin Lad, 9-2 Belfort, 5-1 Zedative, 6-1 Son of Shaka, 7-1 Balvima, 8-1 Sandra's Secret, 12-1 Manilow, 14-1 Dafydd, 16-1 others.

2.35 SUN LIFE OF CANADA HANDICAP (3-y-o : £3,106 : 1¼m)

204 0030-11 The Cliftonian (D Peters), R Hannon, 9-2 P Cook 6
206 0-1220 Ridgefield (D) (R Doughty), G Harwood, 8-13 G Starkey 5
207 001-001 Norfolk Realm (Capt M Lemos), C Brittain, 8-10 W Carson 7
210 314-320 Cliphome (Cliphome Ltd), G P-Gordon, 8-8 L Piggott 2
212 00-1224 Prince Diamond (A Shead), B Hills, 8-7 S Cauthen 1
215 00-0314 Diwali (D) (Esal Commodities Ltd), G Lewis, 8-0 P Waldron 8
216 43-1132 French Knot (D, B) (F Walker), J W Watts, 7-11 A Mercer 4
217 00-0040 Tread a Measure (Baroness Dacre), J D-Home, 7-9 M L Thomas 3

9-4 Norfolk Realm, 4-1 Diwali, 5-1 The Cliftonian, 11-2 Ridgefield, 6-1 Cliphome, 7-1 Prince Diamond, 10-1 others.

3.10 NORTHERN DANCER HANDICAP (£7,048 : 1½m)

303 212-211 Ballytop (D) (Mrs J McDougald), I Balding, 4-9 J Matthias 1
304 4200-00 John O'Groats (D) (D Prenn), J Winter, 4-9 P Eddery 6
305 221-011 Path of Peace (D) (Miss L Gold), C Thornton, 5-9 J Bleasdale 10
307 40-0131 Le Soleil (D) (PTP Plant Hire Ltd), H Price, 7-9-2 B Rouse 2
308 4100-30 Get Stoned (D) (Fittocks Stud Ltd), L Cumani, 5-9-0 A McGlone 5 5
309 0004-01 Broad Principle (L Holliday), M Stoute, 4-8-13 W R Swinburn 4
311 110/123 Four Fathoms (M Mouskos), A Goodwill, 7-8-9 M Rimmer 3 7
312 031-400 Dutch Treat (D) (Mrs H Van der Ploeg), H Price, 8-8-8 A Clark 5 8
313 04-0020 King's Ride (D) (D Clark), W Wightman, 5-8-6 C Baxter 3
314 400000 Ambler (D, B) (D Thorne), G Balding, 5-8-4 W Higgins 9

11-4 Path of Peace, 4-1 Broad Principle, 9-2 Ballytop, 6-1 Le Soleil, 8-1 King's Ride, Four Fathoms, 12-1 John O'Groats, 14-1 others.

3.40 WOODBINE STAKES (2-y-o : £2,658 : 5f)

402 Cavalierizzo (C St George), H Price, 9-0 L Piggott 10
403 Claverham Manor (Demolition Co-Partnership Ltd), R Hannon, 9-0 P Cook 1
404 Fire Track (T Torgersen), D Whelan, 9-0 D Atkins 4
405 Four Marks (D Sullivan), N Callaghan, 9-0 P Eddery 9
406 32 Gerardina's Boy (Mrs M Mouskos), A Goodwill, 9-0 J Mercer 12
407 Nawab (P Husain), I Balding, 9-0 J Matthias 5
408 0 Over and Easy (M Ramsden), J Sutcliffe, 9-0 C Baxter 8
409 0 Plagal (W Gredley), C Brittain, 9-0 W Carson 7
411 00 Saulingo Song (T Cunningham), C Benstead, 9-0 B Rouse 6
415 3 Cheap Seats (R Bonnycastle), B Hills, 8-11 S Cauthen 2
418 0 Princess Kini (A Zandona), R Simpson, 8-11 B Crossley 5 11
419 0 Shared Moment (P Vydra), B Swift, 8-11 M L Thomas 3

3-1 Cheap Seats, 7-2 Geraldina's Boy, 6-1 Cavalierizzo, 7-1 Four Marks, 8-1 Nawab, 10-1 Plagal, 12-1 Over and Easy, Shared Moment, 14-1 others.

4.15 MAPLE LEAF STAKES (2-y-o Maidens : £3,210 : 6f)

501 0040 Typecast (B) (S Norman Assoc Ltd), Mrs J Reavey, 9-7 T Rogers 14
503 40 Hot Anna (P Felden), Felden, 9-4 G Starkey 5
504 030 Red Seam (Neath Shipping & Coal Co Ltd), N Vigors, 9-1 J Reid 8
505 Bright Wire (C Sparrowhawk), A Jarvis, 8-13 L Piggott 6
506 000 Flavells Record (R Taylor), G Fletcher, 8-13 J Mercer 11
508 000 Penny's Dream (A Chin Chong), Pat Mitchell, 8-13 P Cook 12
509 043 Les Dancer (L Carlson), D Jermy, 8-11 B Rouse 4
510 Little London (Mrs W Cripps), T M Jones, 8-11 P Tulk 2
511 030 Sound Money (Bunn Leisure), E Beeson, 8-11 I Johnson 7
512 404 Sweet Andy (J Gilbert), Gilbert, 8-11 W Carson 1
513 344 Sylvan Barbarosa (Mrs B Wade), P Mitchell, 8-11 W R Swinburn 9
514 043 Cheeky Monkey (F Kennedy), G Blum, 8-8 M Rimmer 3
516 02 Kash-In (G Mytton), R Hannon, 8-8 P Eddery 15
517 0 Halo Lane (Mrs S Walton), T M Jones, 8-6 R Fox 13
518 03 Little Smasher (G Deacon), M Haynes, 8-6 J Matthias 10

7-4 Kash-In, 9-2 Little Smasher, 6-1 Sylvan Barbarosa, 8-1 Sweet Andy, 10-1 Red Seam, 12-1 Sound Money, 14-1 Les Dancer, 16-1 Hot Anna, 20-1 others.

4.50 ALBERTA ROSE STAKES (3-y-o Maiden fillies : £2,586 : 1m 110yd)

602 0 Goldyke (C d'Alessio), L Cumani, 8-11 R Guest 11
604 0 Haughty Manner (L Holliday), H Candy, 8-11 P Waldron 3
605 000- La Boria (K F Butler & Co Ltd), P Mitchell, 8-11 R Fox 7
606 0-000 Lady Greene (Mrs D Clay), A Pitt, 8-11 I Jenkinson 4
608 Needs Supporting (R Bonnycastle), B Hills, 8-11 S Cauthen 5
609 4-00 Och Aye (Lord McAlpine), J Bethell, 8-11 I Johnson 3
610 0-22 Round Dance (Lord Derby), J Winter, 8-11 W Carson 8
611 3-00402 Sea Miss (K McCourt), P Kelleway, 8-11 L Piggott 1
612 2 Shademah (H H Aga Khan), M Stoute, 8-11 W R Swinburn 6
613 0240-00 Sister Kitty (C Gavanta), R J Williams, 8-11 J Mercer 9
614 0 Speed the Plough (G Rickman), P Makin, 8-11 G Baxter 12
615 0 Tory Jayne (E Hayward), M Haynes, 8-11 J Matthias 10

13-8 Shademah, 5-1 Sea Miss, 6-1 Goldyke, 7-1 Round Dance, 10-1 Och Aye, 13-1 Needs Supporting, Sister Kitty, 14-1 others.

Epsom selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.0 Balvima. 2.35 Ridgefield. 3.10 Path of Peace. 3.40 Cheap Seats. 4.15 Kash In. 4.50 SHADEMAH is specially recommended.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Balvima. 2.35 Cliphome. 3.10 Broad Principle. 3.40 Gerardina's Boy. 4.15 Cheeky Monkey. 4.50 Shademan.

Epsom results

2.0 (2.2) EGMONT STAKES (3-y-o: £3,163: 1m 110yd)

LA MASCOTTE, b c, by Hotfoot—Calling High (W Maskell), 8-11 P Eddery (9-2) 1
Ta Morgan, b c, by Targowice—Sericana (Mrs N Lewis), 9-0 G Sexton (5-1) 2
Palatara, gr f, by Dragonara Palace—La Sarmate (Mrs N Ford), 8-11 S Cauthen (7-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 100-30 fav Honnenball (4th), 12-1 Wing Velvet, Gamma, Spotsylvania, 14-1 Cornish Blue, Henry's Wish, 33-1 Lord Wesscam, Prince's Drive, Batik Demo's Lady. 13 ran.

TOTE: Win, 43p; places, 30p, 12p, 22p; Dual F: £1.28. CSF: £22.60. J Sutcliffe, at Epsom. ¾l, 7l. 1min 48.60sec.

2.35 (2.36) SEAN GRAHAM HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,995: 7f)

MASTER GOLFER, ch g, by Swing Easy—Wimosa (A Holland), 8-2 S Cauthen (7-1) 1
Ring Bidder, b c, by Auction Ring—Miss Holborn (Capt M Lemos), 9-0 W Carson (16-1) 2
Lady Lorelei, b f, by Derring Do—Friendly Sound (Mrs J Van Geest), 9-7 .. G Baxter (13-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 fav Melon Patch, 11-2 Lord Wimpey, 6-1 Sharp Venita, 7-1 Marking Time, 8-1 Plancourt (4th), 16-1 Etesian. 9 ran.

TOTE: Win, 77p; places, 15p, 72p, 30p; Dual F: £12.49. CSF: £10.92. J Sutcliffe, at Epsom. 2½l, nk. 1min 25.97sec.

3.10 (3.19) CORONATION CUP (Group I: £43,770: 1½m)

MASTER WILLIE, ch c, by High Line—Fair Winter (R Barnett), 4-9-0 .... P Waldron (1-3 fav) 1
Prince Bee, b c, by Sun Prince—Honerga (Sir M Sobell), 4-9-0 W Carson (11-2) 2
Vielle, b f, by Ribero—Hurdy-Gurdy (T Blackwell), 4-8-11 L Piggott (11-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Mrs Penny (4th), 33-1 Rankin. 5 ran.

TOTE: Win, 13p; Dual F: 23p. CSF: 34p. H Candy, at Wantage. 2l, 2½l. 2min 44.49sec.

3.40 (3.47) STAFF INGHAM STAKES (2-y-o: £4,557: 6f)

ALGARDI, ch c, by Avatar—Abergwaun (C St George), 8-11 L Piggott (evens fav) 1
Little Robert, br c, by Wolver Hollow—La Lola (T Mills), 8-8 G Ramshaw (20-1) 2
Paul's Ivory, b c, by Pampapaul—Pale Ivory (B Samlassingh), 8-11 P Eddery (8-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 7-2 Fort Garry (4th), 9-2 Justicia, 20-1 Good Performer, Bigby Lane. 7 ran.

TOTE: Win, 20p; places, 14p, 24p. Dual F: £1.05. CSF: £2.04. H Cecil, at Newmarket. 2½l, 1l. 1min 14.03sec.

4.15 (4.19) ROSEBERRY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £4,620: 1¼m)

CIMA, br g, by High Top—Lemon Blossom (R Lambourne), 8-13 J Reid (9-1) 1
Royal Vulcan, ch c, by Royal Match—Acropolitia Mia (Mrs N Parr), 8-5 .... P Eddery (6-1) 2
Salud, br c, by Lombard—Shanton (Baroness Oppenheim), 8-4 W R Swinburn (12-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Spin of a Coin, 5-1 Government Program (4th), 6-1 Uppety, 8-1 Yeled, 12-1 Highland Range, 14-1 Saba Neid, 16-1 Bedford, Rawalpindi. 11 ran.

TOTE: Win, 70p; places, 27p, 20p, 34p. Dual F: £2.12. CSF: £6.37. J Old, at Salisbury. 1l, 6l. 2min 43.78sec.

4.50 (4.51) NIGHTINGALL STAKES (3-y-o Maidens: £2,505: 1¼m)

FANDANGO TIME, ch c, by Fandango—Sapho (A Shead), 9-0 S Cauthen (8-11 fav) 1
Football, br g, by Hotfoot—Born Free (Mrs D McAlmont), 9-0 J Mercer (15-2) 2
Prince Mal, b c, by His Majesty—Lady Rose (Selim K Zilkha), 9-0 bl .. W R Swinburn (14-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Young Daniel, 8-1 Hollow Laugh, 9-1 Whistling Tower (4th), 20-1 King Of The Hill. 7 ran.

TOTE: Win, 16p; places, 20p, 19p. Dual F: 23p. CSF: 69p. B Hills, at Lambourn. 4l, 3l. 2min 13.44sec.

TOTE DOUBLE: Master Willie, Cima. £9.00. TREBLE: Master Golfer, Algardi, Fandango Time £22.45. JACKPOT: £3,181.80. PLACEPOT: £225.75.

Haydock Park programme

6.30 ORMSKIRK STAKES (2-y-o maidens : £1,858 : 5f)

1 Colonel Mad, J Bethel, 9-0 B Raymond 1
3 002 Steel Stockholder, M W Easterby, 9-0 T Lucas 4
4 Demmy Manchester, R Hollinshead, 8-11 S Perks 5
7 00 Saxon Farm, S Mellor, 8-8 R Weaver 7
8 Virgi, P Rohan, 8-8 C Dwyer 10
10 0 Magnamala, J Etherington, 8-6 J Seagrave 8
15 0 Marcia Sound, R Hollinshead, 8-2 N Carlisle 9
16 00 Milanion, J Wilson, 8-2 M Birch 6
17 0 Padingo, D Garraton, 8-2 T Ives 2
19 Rag-on-Fire, W Musson, 8-2 P Bloomfield 11
21 0 Janiarmar, A Bailey, 7-13 A Mackay 5 3

7-4 Steel Stockholder, 3-1 Virgi, 4-1 Demmy Manchester, 13-2 Magnamala, 12-1 Marcia Sound, 16-1 others.

7.0 KINGS AUDI COUPE STAKES (3-y-o maidens : £2,133 : 1m 40yd)

1 0-0 Arctic Spark, B Hills, 9-0 — 13
2 23- Arrowhead, H Price, 9-0 P Eddery 11
6 0-00 Corbie Lynn, J Etherington, 9-0 J Seagrave 3
8 2 Grand Unit, E Eldin, 9-0 P Madden 12
9 0000- Hassi R'Mel, F Yardley, 9-0 A Shrive 1
10 0-0 Hintsbrook, B McMahon, 9-0 T Ives 14
11 0 Illini, B Hanbury, 9-0 B Raymond 5
14 0- Monmouth, T Robson, 9-0 — 8
18 30-22 Ramannolie, Thomson Jones, 9-0 C Francois 2
19 030033 Scarlet Town, R Hollinshead, 9-0 S Perks 10
21 04030- Singalong Joe, I Walker, 9-0 P Colquhoun 7
22 0-03 Swinging Rebel, N Vigors, 9-0 R Curant 6
25 00-00 Freda Flockton, S Wiles, 8-11 — 9
26 000-000 Heisena (B), K Bridgwater, 8-11 — 4

9-4 Ramannolie, 3-1 Arrowhead, 11-2 Arctic Spark, 7-1 Grand Unit, 9-1 Scarlet Town, 12-1 others.

7.30 BURTONWOOD BREWERY HANDICAP (3-y-o : £2,800 : 7f 40yd)

3 3-111 Barwin, H Cecil, 9-2 N Day 5 1
4 4131-00 Paulager, M H Easterby, 8-13 M Birch 3
11 030-000 Foresters Lad (C), W Haigh, 8-10 T Ives 7
14 0-00000 Bratton Park (B), S Norton, 8-5 J Lowe 2
16 20-0000 Airship, R Hollinshead, 8-4 S Perks 6
17 04-0421 Rawlinson End (B), D Laing, 8-4 R Curant 8
19 00-0043 Gearys Steel Stock, Denys Smith, 7-13 L Charnock 5
20 310-001 Ring Moylan, M Jarvis, 7-13 D Ford 7 4

2-1 Barwin, 3-1 Ring Moylan, 5-1 Rawlinson End, 15-2 Paulager, 10-1 Geary's Steel Stock, 14-1 others.

8.0 BLACKBURN HANDICAP (£2,924 : 1¾m)

1 0004-44 Major Gundry (C), I Balding, 4-10-0 B Raymond 2
2 21100-0 High Rainbow, J Etherington, 4-11-7 T Etherington 3 2
4 443-111 Worth Avenue, I Walker, 5-8-9 P Colquhoun 1
5 31-0010 Skyline Drive, C James, 7-8-7 P Eddery 6
7 000-14 Palmero, K Stone, 4-8-5 M Wigham 5
9 0120-00 Star Burst, W Francis, 4-8-1 E Johnson 4
11 021000- Hand of God, F Yardley, 5-7-7 — 7

15-8 Worth Avenue, 7-2 Karlinsky, 9-2 Major Gundry, 13-2 Palmero, 10-1 Skyline Drive, 16-1 others.

8.30 OLDHAM STAKES (2-y-o : £1,937 : 6f)

1 0311 Singing Sailor, C Spares, 9-3 E Johnson 3
2 31110 Tenth of October, S Mellor, 9-3 J Rowe 5 1
4 1 Jump Jar, M H Easterby, 8-11 M Birch 4
6 Aldershawe Hall, R Hollinshead, 8-6 S Perks 2
7 2 Beldale Bid, M Jarvis, 8-6 P Eddery 6
8 0 Bhaibundi Chowunia, J Wilson, 8-6 T Ives 7
12 Jamooh, M H Easterby, 8-6 K Hodgson 5 8
13 024 Kenson Venture, A Jarvis, 8-6 J Lowe 5

6-4 Beldale Bid, 100-30 Jump Jar, 5-1 Tenth of October, 7-1 Singing Sailor, 10-1 Kenson Venture, 14-1 others.

9.0 RED ROSE HANDICAP (Amateurs : £2,834 : 1¼m 131yd)

1 101110/ Lanarkland, R Baker, 5-12-0 Barbara Kirkby 3 10
3 21100-0 High Rainbow, J Etherington, 4-11-7 T Etherington 3 2
5 0102-30 Norfolk Flight, W H-Bass, 4-10-13 R Hutchinson 9
6 42400-0 Priestcroft Boy (C), M H Easterby, 8-10-12 T Easterby 11
8 013000- Soldier, W Clay, 4-10-10 Diane Clay 3 16
10 00/0420- Day After (B), S Mellor, 5-10-6 Elain Mellor 1
11 00 Musical Prince, W Musson, 8-10-3 T Wood 3 12
12 0000-00 Tom Strauss, M Blanshard, 6-10-2 W Muir 3 4
13 0200-000 Al Khashab, R Hollinshead, 4-10-0 Sarah Hollinshead 7
14 004-000 Preacher Man, B Lunness, 4-9-12 Helen Ogden 3 8
15 000-0 Companionship, C Balding, 4-9-8 C Freedman 3 5
16 000/443- Deonally, C James, 5-9-7 D Wilson 3 13
17 30000-4 Wickwell, A W Jones, 8-9-7 Diana Jones 3
18 20/0003 Quality Supreme, Denys Smith, 6-9-7 Jonny Goulding 16
19 03000- Sea Minstrel, M James, 7-9-7 Sharron James 3 6
20 0/00000- Home Win, M James, 7-9-7 Lyn Wallace 3 14

5-1 Day After, 100-30 High Rainbow, 9-2 Priestcroft Boy, 6-1 Lanarkland, 8-1 Norfolk Flight, 10-1 Tom Strauss, 16-1 others.

Haydock Park selections

By Michael Seely
6.30 Magnamala. 7.0 Grand Unit. 7.30 Ring Moylan. 8.0 Worth Avenue. 8.30 Singing Sailor. 9.0 Quality Supreme.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
6.30 Rag-on-Fire. 7.0 Grand Unit. 7.30 Barwin. 8.0 Worth Avenue. 8.30 Beldale Bid. 9.0 Norfolk Flight.

Catterick Bridge programme

2.15 SCORTON HANDICAP (Selling : £825 : 6f)

2 232-040 Deputy (D), J FitzGerald, 4-9-6 J Seagrave 15
3 02-0200 Blues, W Guest, 4-9-5 E Guest 7 8
4 4-10002 Magneto (S, D), N Callaghan, 4-9-3 J Lowe 6
5 032200 St Benedict, A Smith, 4-9-0 M Wigham 13
6 01400-0 Miss Bushby, J FitzGerald, 5-8-13 M McAndrew 7 7
7 030-000 French Touch, A Balding, 4-8-12 E Johnson 4
9 4300-00 Eyelight, R Hollinshead, 4-8-12 S Perks 11
10 000-200 Winde Up, S Matthews, 5-8-9 S Salmon 5
13 00-0000 Kamenev, D Chapman, 4-8-8 D Nicholls 10
16 000 Dial A Disc, A Bailey, 3-8-4 — 9
17 0040-00 Pulham Venture (B), D Wooden, 4-8-3 P Young 2
18 3000-40 Nordan Enterprise (B), M Camacho, 3-8-3 M Birch 3
20 000400- Mistereff, R Mason, 4-8-3 J Higgins 1
23 300-000 Fair Sue (C), C Gray, 4-8-2 L Charnock 14

9-4 Magneto, 11-4 Deputy, 4-1 Blues, 6-1 Eyelight, 8-1 Winde Up, 12-1 Nordan Enterprise, 20-1 others.

2.45 GILLING STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies : £690 : 5f)

2 334 Burn Up, P Asquith, 8-11 C Dwyer 8
4 Chestnut Pale, Hbt Jones, 8-11 L Charnock 4
5 220 Chrisdee, K Ivory, 8-11 K Leason 3
6 0 Couchette, J Hindley, 8-11 B Taylor 1
8 02 Derwent River, T Barron, 8-11 — 6
9 Duty Watch, W C Watts, 8-11 E Hide 9
11 Express Finish, R D Peacock, 8-11 A Horrocks 2
12 00 Firdale Flyer, W Wharton, 8-11 W Wharton 12
15 00 Josolita, M W Easterby, 8-11 T Lucas 14
16 44 Karen's Birthday, S Matthews, 8-11 S Salmon 10
18 40 Lady Tilbury, K Stone, 8-11 M Wigham 11
19 L'Aida, J Doyle, 8-11 J Stockton 7 13
24 Morstons Maid, W Bentley, 8-11 — 5
30 40 Swinging Baby, J FitzGerald, 8-11 J Duffield 7

7-4 Couchette, 11-4 Chrisdee, 9-2 Derwent River, 6-1 Karen's Birthday, 8-1 Duty Watch, 10-1 Burn Up, 16-1 others.

3.15 CROFT HANDICAP (3-y-o : £1,196 : 1m 5f 180yds)

1 00-2113 Rheingold's Gift, C Brittain, 9-7 P Bradwell 5 5
2 4-341 St Malo, J Hindley, 9-5 B Taylor 12
3 031000- Scottish Dream, G Lockerbie, 9-5 J Seagrave 4
8 00-3004 Patchinia, S Norton, 8-8 J Lowe 10
9 044-00 Whitworth, D Morley, 8-8 G Duffield 8
10 00-013 Obergurgl, C Thornton, 8-8 E Hide 7
15 04-2344 Super Spartan, J Etherington, 8-1 M Birch 6
16 000-000 Silver Leo (C), J Harris, 8-0 P Robinson 11
17 000-000 Loch Boyle, C Gray, 8-0 L Charnock 9
18 013000- Sir Jester, R Johnson, 7-13 K Leason 1
21 120233 Top Reef, D Leslie, 7-12 R Hills 7 2
23 230204 Audit, G Richards, 7-12 B Jones 5 3

5-3 Rheingolds Gift, 11-4 St Malo, 7-2 Obergurgl, 6-1 Super Spartan, 8-1 Top Reef, 12-1 Whitworth, 20-1 others.

3.45 SCOTCH CORNER STAKES (£690 : 1¼m 40yds)

2 00- Law of the Land, G Lockerbie, 4-9-9 P Kellcher 2
3 40/0- Mullenan, T Barron, 6-9-9 J Lowe 3
4 0000-00 My Danny Boy, B Richmond, 4-9-9 A Proud 5 6
5 04300/0- Speed of Light, G Lockerbie, 6-9-9 M Beecroft 7 11
6 0044-34 Timonier, Denys Smith, 4-9-9 R Campbell 5 4
7 000340- Beryl's Gift, J Calvert, 4-9-6 W Wharton 15
9 0000-03 Herkey, J Harris, 4-9-6 P Young 16
12 000/000- Oyston Idol, J Charlton, 3-9-6 R Sidebottom 5 10
13 0- Wensum Girl, B Richmond, 4-9-6 D Nicholls 8
16 0112 Alma Ata, L Cumani, 3-8-7 E Hide 9
22 0- Bam Express, T Barnes, 3-8-6 — 14
35 0400-00 Dusty Path (B), W Bentley, 3-8-6 J Seagrave 12
27 0000-0 Our Lucky Jim, Hbt Jones, 3-8-6 L Charnock 5
29 00 Voortrekker, W Elsey, 3-8-6 M Wigham 13
30 00 Wensleydale, R D Peacock, 3-8-6 B Taylor 7
34 000- Side Hill Star, D Morley, 3-8-3 G Duffield 11

11-10 Alma Ata, 4-1 Herkey, 5-1 Timonier, 8-1 Side Hill Star, 10-1 Wensleydale, 16-1 Voortrekker, 20-1 others.

4.15 JERVAULX HANDICAP (3-y-o : £1,186 : 5f)

5 0340-0 Pretty Music, D Wooden, 8-12 P Young 4
6 400-000 Miss Twiggy (CD), J Harris, 8-12 S Parr 5 3
7 030- Run For Her Life, J Winter, 8-11 B Taylor 8
8 00-100 Miss Import (D), T Barron, 8-11 G Duffield 2
13 014-404 Advertrack (D), G Hunter, 8-7 J Lowe 12
14 00234-0 Christines Folly, S Nesbitt, 8-6 A Nesbitt 5 5
15 30-0300 Khaleel, A Hide, 8-6 E Hide 6
17 001- Thai Anna (CD), I Vickers, 8-3 D Nicholls 7
18 0-04000 Panay, T Fairhurst, 8-2 O Gray 1
21 040-000 Hurtwood Lass, A Balding, 7-12 E Johnson 13
22 000- Frabwah, B Lunness, 7-8 — 10
24 04-0000 Sovereign Castle, K Ivory, 7-7 K Leason 9
25 4000-00 Wind and Reign, D Chapman, 7-7 A Proud 5 11

15-8 Run For Her Life, 3-1 Advertrack, 9-2 Miss Import, 6-1 Pretty Music, 8-1 Khaleel, 10-1 Thai Anna, 12-1 Miss Twiggy, 20-1 others.

4.45 MERRYBENT STAKES (3-y-o fillies : £690 : 7f)

1 000114 City's Sister, G Richards, 9-3 M Wood 15
2 041 Huppel, G P-Gordon, 9-3 G Duffield 3
3 000-001 Same Date, S Mellor, 9-3 J Rowe 5 12
4 0000-41 Tyejest, G Harman, 9-3 E Hides 6
5 20430-0 Abwacadabwa, R D Peacock, 8-11 B Taylor 18
7 300320- Badsworth Girl, G Toft, 8-11 — 3
11 0-000u4 Derry Doe, D Garraton, 8-11 J Skilling 10
13 00-0 Escultura, B Hanbury, 8-11 K Fretwell 7 7
14 0000- Farleigh (B), S Matthews, 8-11 M Stroud 9
16 00-0040 Habatashie, W Wharton, 8-11 W Wharton 19
18 Jan Can, T Barnes, 8-11 — 13
19 0000-00 Lady Astir (B), M McCormack, 8-11 J Higgins 11
20 4420-00 Llanelli, P Calver, 8-11 P Young 17
21 0000-0 Loch Gate, P Asquith, 8-11 M Peckham 7 8
22 000-00 Locker Tarn, T Fairhurst, 8-11 M Beecroft 7 14
23 040-00 Mountain Thyme, M W Easterby, 8-11 — 16
24 003400- Pampered Isle, W C Watts, 8-11 B Jones 5 1
25 03-000 Petite Hester, I Balding, 8-11 S Payne 5 2
29 0 Soffiana, C Brittain, 8-11 E Johnson 4

11-4 Huppel, 7-2 Same Date, 9-2 City's Sister, 6-1 Tyejest, 8-1 Petite Hester, 10-1 Soffiana, 12-1 Abwacadabwa, 16-1 Escultura.

Catterick Bridge selections

By Michael Seely
2.15 French Touch. 2.45 Swinging Baby. 3.15 Obergurgl. 3.45 Alma Ata. 4.15 Khaleel. 4.45 Huppel.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Magneto. 2.45 Couchette. 3.15 St Malo. 3.45 Alma Ata. 4.15 Run For Her Life. 4.45 Huppel.

Carlisle

3.15 (3.20) LEVY BOARD (Apprentices: £888: 1m)

ICE HARBOUR, b or br g, by Icecapade—Harbour Queen (M Mailjasovic), 3-8-0 ... R Hills (2-1) 1
Rocket Song .. K Williams (8-13) 2
Helandy .... M Barry (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 48p; places, 21p, 10p, 19p. DF: 17. CSF: 33p. J Hindley, at Newmarket. ¾l, ¾l. 11 ran.

3.45 (3.48) LORTON HANDICAP (Selling: £758: 1m)

LONGRIDGE, b g, by Derring-Do—Charlottown (G Simpson), 5-8-6 A Nesbitt (14-1) 1
Some Cherry .. J Seagrave (33-1) 2
Sorochinsky Fair J Bleasdale (9-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.18; places, 34p, 27p, 19p, 24p. DF: Winner or second with any other horse, 59p. CSF: £39.08. TRICAST: £397.83. S Nesbitt, at Middleham. Nk, 2l. 17 ran.

3.15 (3.17) BORROWDALE HANDICAP (£1,093: 5f)

KAIMLAW, ch g, by Native Prince—Misty Morn (J Richardson), 7-8-13 ...... N Carlisle (20-1) 1
Melba Toast .. J Seagrave (12-1) 2
Star Kid .... A Mercer (5-1) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.41; places, £1.13, 38p, 22. DF: £7.05. CSF: £23.20. C H Bell, at Hawick. 1½l, ½l. 9 ran.

3.45 (3.50) BENDALLS STAKES (3-y-o: £1,338: 6f)

SADDLERS CREEK, b c, by Connaught—Coral Beach (Lord Derby), 8-11 . E Hide (3-1 fav) 1
Bright View .... O Gray (6-1) 2
Steelmock ...... M Wigham (20-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 43p; places, 34p, 35p, £3.58. DF: £2.40. CSF: £2.19. J W Watts, at Richmond. 1½l, 2l. 7 ran.

4.15 (4.21) LANGDALE STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies: £1,000, 5f)

PASS NO REMARKS, b f, by Wolverlife—Place to Place (R Shaw), 8-11 ..... T Ives (6-1) 1
Magalla .... M Wigham (7-1) 2
Morezi .... J Lowe (11-10 fav) 3

TOTE: Win, 46p; places, 16p, 19p, 11p. DF: £9.84. CSF: £5.41. B McMahon, at Tamworth. ¾l, hd. 12 ran. NR: Dorothy Jane, Luck Tuesday.

4.45 (4.52) ESKDALE HANDICAP (£1,318: 1m 1f 80yd)

MIRTHFUL, b or br f, by Will Somers—French Lane (T Barber), 3-8-7 .... J Lowe (5-1) 1
tC Dollar .. G Duffield (2-1 fav) 2
Saint Melunde ..... T Ives (13-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 65p; places, 13p, 35p, 39p. DF: 72p. CSF: £1.01. W Elsey, at Malton. 1½l, 4l. 9 ran. NR: Nathaniel.

5.15 (5.18) DUNMAIL STAKES (3-y-o: £877: 1½m)

HARESCEUGH, b c, by Andrea Mantegna—Mortola (Mrs A Kidd), 9-10 .. R Curant (6-4) 1
Rodeo .... J Bleasdale (8-11 fav) 2
Import Export .. K Darley (50-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 16p; places, 11p, 10p, 60p. DF: 13. CSF: 26p. PLACEPOT: £564.65. N Vigors, at Lambourn. 3l, 3l. 11 ran.

Chantilly result

PRIX DE SANDRINGHAM (Group 3: 3-y-o fillies: £14,815: 1m)
ALIK, br f, by Targowice—Kalliopi (J Wertheimer), 8-7 .. F Head 1
Attirance .... S Gorli 2
Mistra .... M Philipperon 3

PARI-MUTUEL: 3.60fr; places, 3.00, 3.10. DF: 31.40fr. A Head. 1l, sh neck. 1min 42.5sec.

Lyconwise returns

Lyconwise, who won twice in as many days on his last visit to England, turns out again at Leicester on Monday for the Ragdale Handicap, in which a 7lb penalty brings his weight to 7st 8lb.

STATE OF GOING (official): Epsom: Good. Catterick Bridge: Good to firm. Haydock Park: Soft. Tomorrow: Warwick: Good to soft.

Hardwicke Stakes

FIRST ACCEPTORS: Ballytop, Borovici, Cairn Rouge, Castle Keep, Cosario, Court Cavalier, Cracaval, Dukedom, Fenny Mill, Fingal's Cave, Henbit, King's Ride, Lancastrian, Light Cavalry, Master Willie, Moulouki, Mrs Penny, Nicholas Bill, Pelerin, Prince Bee, Rankin, Rhus, Royal Fountain, Sea Chimes, Shaftesbury, Shining Finish, Shoot a Line, Triomphe. To be run over 1½m at Royal Ascot on June 19.

King's Stand Stakes

FIRST ACCEPTORS: Blue Courtier, Chummy's Special, Cooleen Jack, Crimson Heather, Durandal, Jasmine Star, King of Spain, Lady Blackfoot, Marwell, Moorestyle, Noalto, Pettistree, Runnett, Sayyaf, Sharpo, Sparkling Boy, Standaan, Steel Charger, Swan Princess, Tuafan, Tina's Pet, Tinjar, Valeriga. To be run over 5f at Royal Ascot on June 19.



Left to right: Carlos Kleiber, first-time conductor at the Royal Festival Hall; "Kagemusha", Kurosawa's screen epic; musical "Cats", a T. S. Eliot inspiration; elm sculpture by G ertrude Hermes RA, at the Academy Summer Show.

The Times critics' guide to the week's entertainment

Our regular critics provide a short-list of recommended entertainments, outings and reading for the coming week

Theatre
Irving Wardle

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas: Idyllic fable of model bordello wantonly hounded out of business by the combined forces of media publicity and political embarrassment. A Manhattan tribute to the Lone Star State, the musical is both a satire and an elegy, and contains the best country music yet imported from Broadway. (Drury Lane, 836 8108)

Goose Pimples: A clean sweep of the downmarket consumer population, in the form of a ghastly dinner party for car salesmen and a non-English speaking Saudi (Anthony Sher) who mistakes the venue for a brothel. As improvised by Mike Leigh's company, the piece may arouse inverse snob reactions, but you cannot argue against acting as good as this. (Garrick, 836 4601)

The Seagull: Masterly new version by Thomas Kilroy, moving Chekhov's household to the west of Ireland and uncovering a wealth of fresh insights into the play. Max Stafford Clark's magnificently cast production uses the contrast between Galway and London manners to sharpen the comic collisions, and reveal the characters with a hard-edged precision that has rarely been achieved in previous versions. (Royal Court, 730 1745)

Cats: Skimbleshanks, Growltiger, and other famed felines from T. S. Eliot's collection, released into a cats' adventure playground for a night out involving every theatrical skill from blues-singing and conjuring to Chinese opera. Trevor Nunn and Andrew Lloyd Webber have failed in their attempt to devise a story line; but the stage effects and dance are terrific. (New London, 405 0072)

Translations: Anglo-Irish parable of a Donegal hedge school of the 1830s (where the Gaelic peasantry learn Latin and Greek), and a British army detachment who are anglicizing the local place names. Colonial tragedy ensues, but Brian Friel's play begins and ends as a play about language. An extraordinary technical achievement with the metaphorical implications of a national classic, fully projected by a superb cast. (Hampstead Theatre, 722 9301)

The Misanthrope: Sumptuously dressed, well translated, and brilliantly delivered version of Molière's comedy with Tom Courtenay as a manically enraged bull in the courtly china shop. (Royal Exchange Manchester, 061 833 9333)

Britannicus: A gallant near-success in anglicizing Racine's political masterpiece; with a ferocious central battle between Jonathan Kent's Nero and Siobhan McKenna as his equally blood-glutted mother. Some of the modern detail grates, but this is a worthy successor to the director, Christopher Fettes's, acclaimed *Dr Faustus* (Lyric Studio, Hammersmith, 741 2311.)

Serjeant Musgrave's Dance. Painfully well-timed revival of John Arden's fable of colonial warfare. A good company, led by John Thaw, and Peter Hartwell's superb designs throw the play's narrative strength and poetic weakness into illuminating relief. (Cottesloe, 928 2252)

London Fringe

One Man: Steven Berkoff's London Theatre Group was a victim of the recent Arts Council cuts. Returning to the London stage on his own, he promises a late-night entertainment with material from his favourite authors: Kafka, Edgar Allan Poe and Berkoff. He is always challenging. Performances this Friday and Saturday only, at 10 pm. Theatre at New End, Hampstead, London, NW3 (794 0238) (Ned Chaillet).

London Calling: Tony Marchant is a young playwright whose first play caused much excitement earlier this year when it opened the new studio theatre at Stratford's Theatre Royal. His title, taken from a recent album by the Clash, suggests he is still concerned with provocative theatre. Opening Thursday, after one preview. Square Thing, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford East, London E15 (534 0310)

Booking opens . . .

The Royal Shakespeare Company
Aldwych, London. *Postal booking for July 1—August 29 opens on Monday for* Troilus and Cressida, The Merchant of Venice *and* As You Like It. *Personal booking June 15.*
Warehouse, Donmar Theatre, London. *Booking opens Monday, June 15, for* Thirteenth Night, *a Dream Play by Howard Brenton (June 24-August 25),* The Forest *by Alexander Ostrovsky (July 14-August 27),* The Shadow of a Gunman *by Sean O'Casey (July 21-August 29).*
Fortune. *Booking from Monday.*

The Hollow Crown *(July 1-September 30),* Pleasure and Repentance *(July 13-September 30). Book there. Reduced prices for advance booking.*
Stratford. *Booking opened last Monday for June-October 3.*
A Winter's Tale, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Two Gentlemen of Verona, Titus Andronicus.



Carlin Glynn in "Best Little Whorehouse"

Ballet
John Percival

Coliseum: The Stuttgart Ballet's season continues for only one more week. This weekend's programme has a changed running order: Marcia Haydée starts it as *Hedda* and ends it as Mathilde in *Träume*; Jiri Kylian's *Forgotten Land* comes between (June 5 and 6, matinée and evening).

John Cranko's *Swan Lake* (Monday-Thursday) resolutely refuses the usual happy ending. Three casts are scheduled to dance the leads: Haydée with Richard Cragun (June 6, 10 matinée), Lucia Isenring with Egon Madsen (9, 11), and Susanne Hanke with Vladimir Klos (10).

Another Cranko ballet never seen before in London, *Présence*, starts the final programme (June 12, 13 mat & eve), which also includes Kylian's *Return to the Strange Land* and Glen Tetley's *Rite of Spring* (836 3161)

Covent Garden: Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet is briefly in residence while the other Royal Ballet prepares for its New York season. Ninette de Valois's 1937 classic *Checkmate* and Galina Samsova's glittering production of *Paquita* share a triple bill with Cranko's *Brouillards* (tonight), Kenneth MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations* (tomorrow) and Frederick Ashton's *Sinfonietta* (June 12). Ashton's two-act charmer, *The Two Pigeons*, is given at the other performances, preceded by either *Sinfonietta* (June 9, 13 mat) or *Brouillards* (June 10). (240 1066)

Sadler's Wells: A season of American dance starts on Monday with one of their great dancer-choreographers, Merce Cunningham, a veteran now but still active, and his company of first-rate dancers. The programme changes almost nightly, chosen from a dozen works including one completely new and three London premieres: expect original, sometimes disconcerting but always gripping choreography, generally avant-garde music, and designs by artists of distinction. (837 1672)

Riverside: Two of Cunningham's former dancers, David Gordon and Valda Setterfield, head the Pick Up Company which appears in a programme of new works, June 9-14. It is the company's first time in London but the leading couple gave a foretaste of Gordon's inventive, disrespectful and often amusing choreography at Riverside last year. (742 2251)

National Film Theatre: The programmes of ballet films in tribute to the Royal Ballet's jubilee continue with *Romeo and Juliet* (Fonteyn, Nureyev and Blair in MacMillan's choreography, June 6), Ashton's danced version of *The Tales of Beatrix Potter* (June 7), and then one of the most famous of all dance films, *The Red Shoes* (June 15). Finally, Ashton's *Enigma Variations* together with the 1947 weepie, *The Little Ballerina* (June 14). All programmes twice nightly; membership inquiries 437 4355.

Concerts
William Mann

Unquestionably the event of the week will be the first concert appearance in London of Carlos Kleiber, who conducts the LSO at the Royal Festival Hall (928 3191) on Tuesday, in place of Karl Böhm. Kleiber has been touring with the LSO in Italy; their main work will be Beethoven's Seventh Symphony.

The 1981 Bath Festival draws to a close at the weekend. Tonight at the Theatre Royal (0225 60265) the Lontano group perform Stravinsky's *A Soldier's Tale* and a new dramatic piece by Nigel Osborne. Tomorrow Capricorn play Mozart and twentieth century works in the afternoon; in the evening, the English Baroque Soloists offer Purcell, Bach and Handel. Sunday brings Robert Woolley with French harpsichord music, and the final recital by the Beaux Arts Trio of New York.

Back in London, my pick for tonight is Gustav Leonhardt's J. S. Bach harpsichord recital at Christ Church, Spitalfields (247 0792). Tomorrow is a day of oratorios, with Handel's *Deborah* at the Queen Elizabeth Hall (928 3291) and Mendelssohn's *St Paul* at Spitalfields. On Sunday evening at the RFH Arrau plays Weber's *Concert Piece* and Strauss's *Burleske* with the RPO and Walter Weller, while at Covent Garden (240 1066) Dame Janet Baker with Geoffrey Parsons gives a varied programme of songs.

On Monday the young and greatly talented Krystian Zimerman plays piano sonatas by Brahms and Chopin at the RFH, while piano-fanciers will also find serried ranks of them in the QEH on Tuesday evening, when 25 pianists variously combine, conducted by Colin Davis in such gems as Sousa's *Stars and Stripes*.

Finally, Mahler devotees must not miss *Das klagende Lied*, conducted by Simon Rattle at the RFH on Thursday.

Opera
John Higgins

Covent Garden: The Royal Opera is back home again after its month in Manchester and opens the last part of the season with a revival of Verdi's *Luisa Miller*. Katia Ricciarelli again sings the title role, with Leo Nucci as her father. The newcomers include the veteran tenor Carlo Bergonzi as Rodolfo and Pinchas Steinberg (son of William) making his house debut as conductor. (240 1066)

English National Opera North: Grand Theatre, Leeds: Mozart's *Don Giovanni* opens tomorrow night with Tom McDonnell in the title role. David Pountney has revised his production, originally staged by Scottish Opera, for its trip south. *The Barber of Seville* joins *Giovanni* at Leeds Repertory next week. (0532 459351)

Glyndebourne: Certainly the most carefully planned opera of the week. The two best-known musical works based on the encounters of Figaro and Count Almaviva are running in tandem. Sir Peter Hall has returned to re-direct his 1973 production of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*, which probes well beneath the skin of the characters. Two performances which most catch the eye and the ear are both given by American singers: Richard Stilwell (the Count) and Faith Esham (Cherubino). John Cox's effervescent staging of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* has one truly star performance, Maria Ewing's Rosina. She is admirably supported by John Rawnsley—an up-and-coming bass-baritone—as Figaro, and indeed the whole cast, who play with fine comic brio. The house is sold out, but there is a chance of returned tickets. (0273 812411)

Welsh National Opera, Sherman Theatre, Cardiff: The première of John Metcalf's *The Journey* will be given by the WNO at Cardiff on June 12, with a second performance the following evening. The opera then goes next month to the Cheltenham Festival. Note that the WNO is playing at the Sherman Theatre and not at its normal home, the New. (0222 30451)

Films
David Robinson

Atlantic City: This week and next there is the last chance to see Louis Malle's elegiac homage to Atlantic City and a group of people—most notably Burt Lancaster as an old hood dreaming of former criminal triumphs that never were—crumbling along with the flimsy façades and boardwalks of the place. (Curzon, 499 3737)

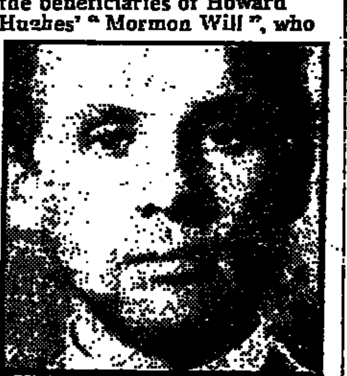
Don Giovanni: Joseph Losey's tussle with Mozart—a mixture of brilliant moments and strange miscalculations—is now in its eighth month. It has to be seen once at least, for the experience as well as for Ruggero Raimondi's diabolic Don. (Academy One, 437 2981)

Greek Tragedy on Film: The National Film Theatre offers a season of cinematic encounters with the classics. There are more than you might guess, including three versions of *Oedipus Rex* and five *Electras*, if you count a 1938 Greek short. On Saturday and Sunday there is Michael Caccoyannis's tragic trilogy, *Iphigenia, Electra* and *The Trojan Women* (with Katharine Hepburn, Vanessa Redgrave and Irene Papas); and on Thursday Miklós Jancsó's balletic meditation on *Electra*. (928 3232/3)

Kagemusha: Kurosawa's epic has to be seen; but try to catch it at a cinema where the projection and sound facilities are as good as the film's spectacle deserves. The sixteenth century tale of a criminal who becomes the warlord's official double and assumes his master's nobility of soul as well as the physical likeness, rises to tragic grandeur. (Gate Mayfair, 493 2031, and selective release)

The Long Good Friday: John Mackenzie's sharp and finely-acted thriller, owing much to Barry Keeffe's admirable scripts, is one of the periodic gleams of hope in British films. Bob Hoskins's London gang boss, whose ideal capitalist-criminal organization is suddenly threatened by unknown but lethal enemies, is a fine character creation. (Selective release)

Melvin and Howard: The misadventures of Melvin Dummar (Paul Le Mat), one of the beneficiaries of Howard Hughes' "Mormon Will", who claimed that the eccentric Hughes befriended him when he gave him a lift in the desert. You either take to Jonathan Demme's easy style or you don't; but the film is rare for its assertion of Renoir's belief that "tout le monde a ses raisons", and for its quality of kindliness. (Gate One, 221 0220; Screen on the Green, 226 3520)



Peter Firth in Roman Polanski's "Tess"

Rough Treatment: Poland's film makers anticipated the events of summer 1980. Andrzej Wajda's 1979 picture detailed the mechanisms that Gierek's Poland had in readiness for inconvenient citizens. The humiliation and eventual destruction of the journalist-hero undoubtedly reflect Wajda's own experiences after official damning of his *Man of Marble*. (Camden Plaza, 485 2443)

Stalker: A Soviet artist's allegory on the quality of life and the quest for meanings in it is likely to be elusive: and Andrei Tarkovsky's myth about a scientist, a writer and a guide exploring the forbidden "Zone" is often dark and mysterious. Tarkovsky, though, is one of the cinema's outstanding visionaries. (Academy Two, 437 5129)

Tess: With extradition agreements inhibiting his entry to Britain, Roman Polanski made a virtue of necessity, using the landscape of Brittany to create an ideal Wessex. The best attempt yet at Hardy's teasingly fatalistic world, the film has an intelligent script and good cast, led by the sombre-eyed, full-lipped Nastassia Kinski. (Empire, 437 1234)

Museum of London: The museum, creditably film minded, has a special summer exhibition: *Such Things as Dreams Are Made On—Denham Studios, 1935-1951.* Also, in collaboration with the National Film Archive, on *Tuesdays and Thursdays at* 6.10 pm, a series of films "Made in London". This week, the young Olivier in the 1931 *Potiphar's Wife* (Tuesday); and the apogee of costume romance, *The Wicked Lady* (Thursday). (600 3699)

Booking opens . . .

National Film Theatre
Postal booking for July opens June 11 and personal booking on June 18. The programme features Anthony Asquith, Blake Edwards, Theo Angelopoulos, Manuel de Oliveira, Hollywood in the Mirror, Enterprise Studios and Ray Harryhausen.

Galleries
John Russell Taylor

Irving Penn: Images: Nearly 30 years' work by one of America's leading photographers. Penn is as at home with New Guinea tribesmen as with San Francisco hippies, as interested in a crumpled cigarette cartoon as a ripe female nude, and photographs them all with revealing formality in the studio. (Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, W1).

Keith Vaughan: One of the lost generation of English neo-romantic painters who were big in the 1940s and nowhere thereafter. This show concentrates on monumental figure compositions from the 1950s, and offers the strongest argument for taking a new look at Vaughan and his contemporaries. (Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, E2)

Philip King: Major retrospective devoted to the British artist most famously responsible for introducing a dash of colour into the sober field of sculpture. The earlier works playful, in light-weight plastics; the later hefty with chunks of wood and stone, bound together often with great industrial cables. A still-developing talent. Also Raymond Moore's expressive landscape photographs. (Hayward Gallery, South Bank)

Robert Rauschenberg: Erstwhile enfant terrible of New York art (but then, what is one among so many?) shows few signs of quietening down in his later work. He is still trying out mad, readily perishable materials, still turning the current images of popular culture to strange and personal ends. Where he started from and where he has provisionally arrived at are both here, with a lot of what came in between. (Tate Gallery)

213th Summer Show: Almost inevitably, the Academy mixture as before. Abstract art not up to much, though they seem to be trying; elsewhere, cheery and colourful, with the usual famous Academicians doing (often finely) what made them famous in the first place. Certainly well up to standard. (Royal Academy; Piccadilly)

Bridget Riley: Two simultaneous selections of recent paintings and large gouaches show the artist still faithful to Op Art, still teasing our eyes with lines and curves which seem to shift as we watch. But not jangling our nerves any more: the new colours are gentle, pastel, and—dare one say it?—pretty. (Rowan Gallery, 31a Bruton Place, W.1; Warwick Arts Trust, 33 Warwick Square, SW1)

Mary Potter: Retrospective tribute to one of our senior painters, still painting prolifically and better than ever the age of 80. Charming figurative work dating back to the early 1920s; in the last two decades subject matter has faded into veils and hazes of exquisite colour through which an indeterminate shape may occasionally be glimpsed. Irresistible. (Serpentine Gallery)

Jazz/Rock
Richard Williams

Bruce Springsteen: He treats every night as if it were his last chance. These three concerts are your last chance. The policy of holding back a block of tickets for sale on the night seems to be having the desired effect of holding black market prices down, so really there can be no excuse. (June 5, Wembley Arena, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex. 902 1234. June 7 and 8, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. 021 7804141)

Moody Blues: The kings of cosmic soft rock return, with a new keyboards player, the much travelled Patrick Moraz. (June 5, Apollo, Manchester. 061 2731112. June 6, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. 021 7804141. June 7, Colston Hall, Bristol. 0272 291768. June 8 and 9, Royal Albert Hall, London. 589 8212)

Jimmy Witherspoon: The good-humoured blues-shouting veteran leads an entertaining bill which includes the indestructible Champion Jack Dupree and Rocket 88, an enjoyable home-grown blues band. (June 5, Crucible, Sheffield. 0742 760621)

Q-Tips: This soul band's single, "Stay the Way You Are", is at present the best record to be heard on pop radio. (June 8, City Hall, St Albans. 56 61078)

Shakin' Stevens: After the longest apprenticeship in the history of rock and roll, the likeable Stevens has made it at last. This concert will be by way of celebration. (June 9, Apollo Victoria, London SW1. 828 6491)

George Benson: Soft-focus jazz-funk from the guitarist who began his career by copying Charlie Christian, and then discovered that he possessed a passable voice. (June 10 to 14, Wembley Arena. 902 1234)

Booking opens . . .

Ultravox *at Crystal Palace Bowl, June 13: tickets by post from PO Box 281, London N15 5LW. £7.80 plus sae.*
Pink Floyd *at Earls Court, June 13 to 17: tickets available by post from GP Productions, PO Box 4TL, London W1A 4TL. £8.80 or £7.80 plus sae.*

Radio
David Wade

Poor Pikeman: A well above average historical drama by Edwin Pearce marking the six hundredth anniversary of the Peasants' Revolt. Resourceful use of radio and a very large and successful performance by Barry Foster in the part of Wat Tyler. Particularly well-placed this week as a companion piece to *Who Was Then the Gentleman?* (see below). (Radio 4, June 7 at 2.30 pm)

A Trip to Amsterdam: Capital Radio's venture into radio drama deserves every encouragement and support and, in a way, all the more because it has disappointed so far. However Liane Aukin's name as author (she directed *War Music*—see below—and is herself a capable writer) encourages hopes that this will be one of the better efforts. It tells of a woman's attempts to deal with the dubious—seeming marriage of a much-loved grand-daughter. (Capital Radio, June 7 at 8.00 pm)

Who Was Then the Gentleman?: The truth—possibly—behind *Poor Pikeman* (see above) dug out by Jane Finnis with the help of Asa Briggs, Rodney Hilton and illustrative readings. Ms Finnis is usually a very competent broadcaster; this ought to make an interesting combination with Sunday's play. (Radio 4, June 9 at 7.50 pm)

War Music: Christopher Logue's version of Books 16-19 of The Iliad heard for the second time. Not a translation but an account: Logue has taken various English texts, using them as a launching pad for this pyrotechnic piece of work which tells of the death of Patroclus and Achilles' return to the war. Its battle scenes are probably the most vivid I have ever met, but they are balanced by more contemplative passages of equal accomplishment. That the writing is laced with calculated modernisms only adds to its effect. Donald Fraser's music is a splendid addition, but what really turns this into a radio event is Alan Howard's superlative solo performance. Do not be deterred by length; at 105 minutes it seems short. (Radio 3, June 11 at 7.30 pm)

Books
Philip Howard

Published this week

Bath 1680-1850 by R. S. Neale (Routledge & Kegan Paul; £18): Professor Neale's social history is concerned with the men and women who lived in Bath, and who transformed it from a tiny *Cotswold town into the finest* Palladian city in the land. Bath seen as microcosm of the transformation brought about by the development of capitalism.

Carnival in Romans by Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie (Penguin, £3.25): In February 1580 Carnival in Romans was a time of masks and massacres for the divided citizenry. Concentrating on two colourful and bloody weeks, Professor Ladurie brilliantly resurrects the social and political events that led to tragedy.

Facts and Fallacies, by Chris Morgan and David Langford (Webb & Bower, £5.95): A collection of definitive mistakes and misguided predictions, from Aristotle's assertion that birds never urinate because that superfluity that could be converted into urine is turned into feathers, to Joseph Stalin declaring in 1935 that "gaiety is the most outstanding feature of the Soviet Union".

Father's Day, by Hunter Davies (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £5.50): Scenes from domestic life as observed from dad's armchair, kitchen sink, and driving seat, with humour for these liberated times.

Heavy Sand, by Anatoli Rybakov (Allen Lane, £7.95): The story of a large and closely knit Russian/Jewish family from the beginning of the century to the end of the last war and extermination in a ghetto. Rybakov says: "I wanted to show the Jews as a people like any other. . . . I've invented nothing."

The Macmillan Encyclopaedia (Macmillan, £14.95): 1,376 pages, 1,500,000 words, 6,000 biographies of celebrated men and women, key concepts in modern thought, taxonomy, geography, botany, organizations, and all in all as many facts dealt with summarily as can possibly be squeezed into a single volume.

Tales from the Newgate Calendar, by Rayner Heppenstall (Constable, £8.50): Old favourites (Dick Turpin, Jack Sheppard, Captain Kidd, et al) swing in jolly, skilful rehash of lugubrious eighteenth-century prison tales.

Events

Brodsky: the leading Russian poet, Joseph Brodsky, and Anthony Hecht, the American poet and translator, make rare visits to London on Sunday to give a reading of their work at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, at 7.30 pm. Frances Horovitz will read translations of Brodsky's work. (742 2251)

Cambridge Poetry Festival: Fifth year of the only British festival devoted solely to poetry. It has always had an international flavour, and the evening readings provide a platform for poets from other countries as well as well-known British poets. The rest of the programme is organized around performance ad reflection about modern poetry. Star turn next Tuesday in Robinson College the Mandelstam conference.

Family outings
Judy Froshaug

Stephenson Bicentenary Exhibition: Models of George Stephenson's famous inventions, including the Rocket, have been lent by the Science Museum and are on display with many of his personal effects—including, for the ghouls among you, a lock of the inventor's hair. Stephenson started his career as a pit lad, and his designs for steam engines were generated by his thoughts on better ways of transporting coal.
For a large part of his life Stephenson was semi-literate, his son helping him put pen to paper. (June 10 to July 28, open Monday to Friday 10 am-5 pm, admission free. Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London SW1. 839 1211) Stephenson is also being celebrated in the North, with the opening of the Wylam Railway Museum on June 9 and an exhibition titled "Master of All These Marvels" starting at the Museum of Science and Engineering, Blandford House, Newcastle-upon-Tyne on June 10.

Shuttleworth Collection: Lovers of magnificent flying machines will enjoy this special evening flying display, which will include a Gloster Gladiator, an Avro 504 and—weather permitting—a Blériot. The collection is one of the finest in the country, covering the field of aviation from its earliest days. (June 6, 6.30 pm, £1.50 adults, 50p children, Old Warden Aerodrome, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. 076727 288)

South of England Show: Agricultural shows have much more to offer than cattle. This, one of the largest, includes Royal Navy teams shinning up 80-foot masts, the band of the 1st Battalion Queen's Regiment, and a display by parachutists. There are also hackney carriage championships, packs of fox-hounds, sheep-shearing contests, pets' corners and, of course, the livestock. There will be a crêche. (June 11 to 13, 9 am-6.30 pm, Ardingly, West Sussex. 044489 2245)

Stephenson's Rocket at the bicentenary exhibition.

Tiswas: If you or your children are addicted to this lunatic Saturday morning television programme, you will know what to expect. Sally James, Chris Tarrant and John Gorman will be chucking buckets of water, custard pies and terrible jokes in the general direction of their guests and audience. To join the latter (and audience participation is essential), telephone for tickets, which cost £4 and £3.50, to this one-off show. Not suitable for children of a retiring disposition. (June 11, 8pm, Wimbledon Theatre, London SW19. 946 5211/2)

An exhilarating view of teenage fantasy life

Gregory's Girl (A)

Screen on the Green, Islington (June 11)

That Sinking Feeling (A)

ICA

Portrait of Teresa (A)

Gate 3, Camden Town

Soldier Girls (AA)
1 + 1 = 3 (AA)

Phoenix, East Finchley; Paris Pullman

Germany, Pale Mother (AA)

Screen on the Hill, Hampstead

Nighthawks (X)

Plaza 1

As writer and director of *That Sinking Feeling* and *Gregory's Girl*, Bill Forsyth instantly establishes himself as a comic author of singular gifts. In any other country this — and the fact that singlehanded Forsyth has demonstrated the possibility of a native Scottish feature cinema — would have been proudly proclaimed long ago. In Britain we are still so diffident about the possibility of a national cinema that eighteen months and six months, respectively, have gone by since *That Sinking Feeling* and *Gregory's Girl* were premièred at successive London Film Festivals; and it has taken until now for the films to be publicly shown in London.

Better late than never: *That Sinking Feeling* opens at the ICA this week, and *Gregory's Girl* at the Screen on the Green next, and I can only exhort anyone and everyone to see these hugely enjoyable pictures.

That Sinking Feeling was Bill Forsyth's first, shoestring attempt with actors, and is less polished and assured than *Gregory's Girl*: the performances are uneven; the gags are sometimes hard pushed; there is often a tentative air. But it is also more abandoned in its joyous absurdities, and often the more likeable for its very imperfections.

The film clearly grew out of the abilities and the experiences (as unemployees and occasional delinquents) of the members of the Glasgow Youth Theatre. The hero (Robert Buchanan) is a whippetty youth who inveigles a group of his contemporaries — jobless like himself — into a lunatic plot to steal a load of stainless steel sinks from a plumbers; warehouse.

The elaborate plan of the heist involves two of the boys dressing up as cleaning ladies as decoys for libidinous nightwatchman, and drugging a van driver into a Rip Van Winkle slumber. It all builds up to a pitch of absurdity with the getaway van being switched for an identical vehicle filled with doughnuts and pasties; and a scientific investigation of the sleeping vanman which includes that he will snooze until A.D.2068. Throughout it, though, the youngsters retain their own daft reality and gift for philosophical one-liners like "There must be more to life than suicide".

While *That Sinking Feeling* soars into fairy tale, *Gregory's Girl* Sticks closer to realistic possibilities, or at least contains itself within the fantasy view of life of teenage schoolchildren. Gregory (Gordon John Sinclair, who, like most of the rest of the cast, also appears in *That Sinking Feeling*) is a great silly streak of a boy with the absorbed obsessiveness that frequently afflicts the adolescent male,and who attributes his dizziness to growing too fast, He cannot remember to switch off electric toothbrushes, and jay-walks to school, jumping around fending off imaginary assailants.

He is no odder, for all that, than the rest of his schoolmates, every one of them thrown off-centre by some odd obsessive interest. (One is a passionate photographer, another a pastrycook, a third a factophile). The only thing they have in common and which *slightly sharpens their focus on* life is a growing curiosity about girls.

The girls, for their part, are a lot more knowing and self-possessed, and tolerant, in a patronizing, testy, maternal way, of their infantile male companions. Gregory falls foolishly in love with a girl football player who replaces him in the forward line; but, when her mind proves to be inextricably stuck into the game, he finds his affections adapt quite easily.

Forsyth's best comedy comes out of his delight in other people's introversion and preoccupation, the amiable, blind pursuit, in grown-ups as well as the kids, of private strange concerns. There is a fine inconsequent moment when the acidulous headmaster is caught happily tinkering out a ragtime tune during break, absently dismissing the small boys who have come to watch.

Forsyth is not only a prodigal inventor of comedy, but he has the gift of turning all his cast into richly accomplished comic actors. Gordon John Sinclair is in real life an apprentice electrician; but under Forsyth's direction he is a comedian of the first rank, never mistiming a gesture, a line or a grimace of his amiable, wide-eyed pixie face. The supporting cast are as expert, and the greatest test is Forsyth's ability to blend a tried professional into the ensemble: the comedian Chic Murray plays the headmaster who, besides his musical interlude, grows indecently gluttonous over the products of the cookery class.

The film is packed with treats and treasures: Gregory's sweet reliance on the mature protection and advice of his little sister; Gregory teaching "horizontal dancing" to a newly discovered girlfriend; lovely throwaway inventions of *mise-en-scène* such as a conversation shot on a playground roundabout.

Above all these two films are the clearest demonstration that talent is not bought with money. Forsyth (whether as a thrifty Scot or a film-maker who knows what he is doing) brought in *Gregory's Girl* below his budget of £200,000. (That means, just by rule of thumb, that you might finance seventy or eighty such films for the price of one *Raise the Titanic*.) *That Sinking Feeling*, he says, cost nothing at all apart from the film stock: everyone invested his services on a cooperative basis. Yet these two films are as lively in look as any you can currently find in London, and a lot more entertaining.

The rest of the week's films are concerned with women. *Portrait of Teresa* is a close-to-life story of a woman's struggle for independence in Castro's Cuba. Clearly Socialism cannot eradicate overnight the rooted attitudes of a Latin Catholic society. "Women are women and men are men", says Teresa's mother-in-law; "and even Fidel can't alter that."

Teresa's husband, a television repair man, is a nice enough guy and good at his job, but he cannot see why his wife wants to do a job, and be active in social and cultural life instead of simply devoting herself to the home, the family and him. Teresa (a fine performance by Daysi Granados) battles for her place in life. By the end of the film she has brought him some way on the road, though there is still the hurdle of the sexual double standard.

Apart from the delicacy with which it explores the marital problems of this likeable couple, Pastor Vega's film has the special attraction of revealing graphically how another society lives — their clothes, their food and the quality of everyday life.

Nick Broomfield and Joan Churchill (*Juvenile Liaison, Tattooed Tears*) are skilful *cinéma vérité* reporters In *Soldier Girls* they bring us painfully, embarrassingly close to the violent experiences to which female soldiers are exposed in a basic training camp (It is a picture which exposes the rosy view of *Private Benjamin*).

Broomfield and Churchill work very much in the manner of The American documentarist Fred Wiseman. The difference is that, though Wiseman leaves you asking questions, you feel you are in possession of all the facts. With Broomfield and Churchill there is always the sense that you ought to know something more. Here the close-up attention on a couple of hopeless and humiliated rookies leaves you to wonder what it is that makes most of the other girls so cheerful (apparently) to accept the brutalizing process ("We wanna kill an I-Ray-Ni-An" they chant as they march Merrily along the road). And is this inhuman process of bullying and humiliation the *ad hoc* device of these particular drill sergeants, or the Ultimate product of some sophisticated Pentagon plan? The answer does not all lie in the self-conscious confession of the roughest sergeant, in the last scene. that after Vietnam 'A part of your humanity . . . it's never going to be there again."

The danger is that if this kind of exposé can be suspected of selectivity, the spectacle of people's pain may become voyeurist rather than informative.

Showing with *Soldier Girls* is Heidi Genee's *1 + 1 = 3*, an accutely observed record of a woman's pregnancy and her indecisions over love, marriage, career, motherhood and family. A certain sense of muddle is germane to the subject, though it may well have been heightened by extensive cutting since the film's original appearance in Germany a couple of years ago.

Another German woman director, Helma Sanders, offers in *Germany, Pale Mother*. and exercise in early — even prenatal — autobiography. The film relates the odyssey of her parents from marriage in Nazi Germany through the separations and privations of the war into a still more difficult peace. The film is often touching, and Eva Mattes is excellent in the role of the mother; yet for all the director's personal involvement, and her self-portrait and small child, there is an odd air of detachment about this careful, dogged film.

International terrorists are the obvious new quarry for the cops. In *Nighthawks* the terrorist (Rutger Hauer) is an enigmatic bundle of malice and disguises; and since the cop is played by Sylvester Stallone of the nobody-at-home face he is pretty enigmatic too. When enigma faces enigma, there is little drama as in the confrontation of irresistible force and immovable object. Which only leaves the chase; and, since this kind of chase can only be prolonged if the antagonists make sudden shifts from omniscient invulnerability to extreme stupidity, the characters are thrown still futher into tiresome implausibility.

David Robinson



A young-man's fancy lightly turning, in the dressing-room and on the field: Gordon John Sinclair and Dee Hepburn in *Gregory's Girl*

Talent in plenty

GSM operas

Sadler's Wells

For decades the summer-term opera production of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama has been a welcome fixture, usually though not always a Mozart opera, performed for one week in Cambridge by a happy tradition (in my time the student cast of the GSM *Cosi fan tutte* had William McAlpine and Geraint Evans as the lovesick officers), then for another week in the college's theatre.

This week, as Guildhall Opera *tout court*, the London performances are given, for allcomers to attend, at Sadler's Wells Theatre. Mozart's *Figaro* (sung in Dent's English version) shares the week with last term's much acclaimed double-bill of Rossini's first opera, *La cambiale di matrimonio*, and Suppé's *Zehn Mädchen und kein Mann*, Englished as "Ten Belles without a Ring".

In the double-bill of Rossini and Suppé, sensibly played against the same country house interior, the former brought forward two promising sopranos, Jennifer Higgins and, more polished, Miyuki Morimoto. "Ten Belles" was the real discovery, a spectacular comedy about a widower (Kim Begley, a skilful character actor with a decent singing voice) intent on marrying off his 10 daughters.

There is delightful music in the Johann Strauss vein, military and national costumes for the girls, song, dance, arms drill and formation marching, an amusing English script by Don White and George Hauger, and a spirited production by Tom Hawkes. Plenty of comic and musical talent was on show notably from Jady Pearl as the pretty housemaid, Elisabeth Stirling in a Scottish number, and Ian Smith as the prospective Suitor.

Figaro is given a straightforward production by Johanna Peters, good on clarity and pace of action, short on natural deportment and movement, short too on keen characterization. The Count and Countess, Cherubino too, looked ill-at-ease in their unbecoming costumes; Figaro behaved like a puppet. Yvonne Egan had the measure of Susanna and dominated the drama as she should, singing with charm and confidence, and treating the last finale as seriously as her showpiece, "Deh vieni", which precedes it.

Andrew Hambley-Smith, the Almaviva, made a good vocal impression as did Brian Scott in much of Figaro's music. Eileen Hulse exuded sweetness and capability, as Barbarinas incline to do. Marcia Swanston and Gabriel Sadeh justified the inclusion of their optional last act arias. Appoggiaturas were for once, plentiful and welcome. Vilem Tausky conducted sagely, not always watched by his singers, who would often have preferred to hurry.

William Mann

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Theatre

Billy Bishop Goes to War

Comedy

This Canadian two-hander richly deserves its transfer from the Edinburgh Festival to the West End, but a second viewing strengthens my doubts about the story Eric Peterson and John Gray have to tell as well as my admiration for the skill with which they stage it.

A tribute to Canada's First World War flying ace, it tracks Billy Bishop's career from his miserable start in the cavalry to his transfer to the Royal Flying Corps, where he outdid the ace British pilot, Albert Ball, by bringing down 72 German planes before being loaded with medals and pulled out of action by a high command who feared that his death would injure the morale of Britain's colonial allies, who "have a morbid enthusiasm for life".

Billy, it seems, took to flying mainly to get out of the mud, and never became a particularly proficient pilot. What he did discover in himself was the killer instinct; and much more powerful than any of the restaged dog-fights is the sight of the erstwhile greenhorn lolling in a mess armchair and holding forth on the arts of slaughter. That is one thing that



Eric Peterson

happens to him. The other thing is his brief spell as a lion of London high society, decorated by the King ("Well, Captain Bishop, you've been a busy bugger") and waltzing the nights away under the palace chandeliers.

From first to last, he is treated as a colonial roughneck who has to be taught his place: and, just as he obeyed the order to swallow a spider during his basic training, so he obeys the orders of his titled patron, to act in a manner becoming a national figurehead and to keep his appointments with his "betters" (such as Lord Beaverbrook!).

The show presents these facts, but leaves the questions they raise entirely 'untouched: not only the public question of imperial arrogance, but the personal question of why Billy swallowed such treatment without any apparent resentment. At the end, you do not know whether the war is supposed to have made a man of him, or whether even that experience has failed to dispel his sense of cultural inferiority.

Mr Gray, narrator, pianist, author, and composer of the show, is not equally effective in all departments. He lets slip many an occasion for ironic contrast between comradeship at the front and frosty patronage in Portman Square; and he has an unhappy taste for jog-trot ballads in the style of R. W. Service. Musically he is a most sensitive and resourceful accompanist; and some passages are superbly constructed.

A section on survival, for instance, combines the birth of Billy the Killer with his letters home, French night-club song, and the sounds of warfare, all achived within the structure of one prolonged number.

Mr Peterson, a slight figure in old cavalry breeches, plays the hero and 19 other parts, some distinctly more successful than others. He is at his best with idiot British establishment, and it is a pity that his innocent Billy does not see more of what his *alter egos* are getting up to.

Irving Wardle

A Respectable Family

Shaw

It would be in keeping with the spirit of the National Youth Theatre if its home base, the Shaw Theatre at King's Cross, were somehow to become a base for all Britain's young theatre: a metropolitan venue for children's companies and acting schools, open to the regular challenge of professional work and standards, but maintained for the benefit of young actors.

Of course, subsidy and young people are incompatible in the present philosophy of the Arts Council. It is instead private determination that brings the Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama into the Shaw with a production of a rare Gorky, *A Respectable Family*. That sort of choice is always a sensible challenge, and has unearthed valuable texts like *The Suicide* in the past. At its best, the rare text forces students beyond the patterns of other performances, but that does not quite happen with Gorky, perhaps because Rose Bruford, which gave the English première of the play in 1973, is now treating it as a school property.

The play has a compelling character of its own, an agitated force that overcomes the gloom of Percy Steven's production, but it leaves itself vulnerable to Russian clichés, to the twilight humour of English Chekhov, and many of the performers slide into familiar interpretations. The advantage of the play and the production becomes its emphasis in the turn-of-the-century generation gap in provincial Russia, with most of the parts going to young people who rebel against the rigid stance of an ageing father, the head of the respectable family.

With a more direct response to the irony of the title, the production would move more lightly through Gorky's picture of changing mores. The characters who offer some contrast to the enclosed misery of the family — the lusty widow who seduces the son, the drunken philosophizing lodger, the quaint old vagrant who comes to tea — could boost the energy and make the play more obviously the precursor to *The Lower Depths* which it is.

It is due a more mature production, and it has distinct values as a text, although I wish the provenance of Jean Benedetti's adaptation was more clearly credited.

Ned Chaillet

Whale Music

New End

Even more than the play, the revivification of the Theatre at New End is a salutary event. Although it was a mortuary for many years, the threats to the life of that theatre have been entirely unreasonable, and New York theatre has thrived for years on the support for such venues. Perhaps the unseemly hours of a mortuary account for the new intention to establish a reputation based on late-night performances, but the opening production is more in keeping with the recent past.

The studio of the Leicester Haymarket Theatre has provided several of the most adroit transfers into the space, when it was not creating its own productions. *Whale Music* is a [illegible] contribution, slotted into the main hours of the theatre with an intensity that is almost entirely feminine.

Only the performers create that impression, however, for the play is by a man, the original direction is by a man and the somewhat revised production for London is by another man.

Men know that there is a world where women meet and men may not intrude, and Anthony Minghella's play slides into that area with a great deal of conviction. The battle cry of one of his characters is "If we ever had a union the world would stop dead", and she is talking about the monstrous regiment of women united against the male half of the world. Another of his characters, the most blatantly heterosexual, dismisses men with the sentence: "It feels like lust, but it's loathing really."

There is a hectoring element to those early utterances, a demonstration of the feminist ideal perhaps. That disappears as the characters become friends, united around a single woman who has chosen to bear a child rather than have an abortion, although her male lovers have abandoned her, as has her father.

With good performances from the company of seven women, the play overcomes the imbalance of equal characterization, with lesbian teacher, unwed mother, young wife and free-loving *hippy* all allowed to develop when the story could do with more concentration. The seriousness of bearing and giving away a child is finally stressed by Michele Copsey's performance, but the colouring of its darker emotions comes from Carol Leader, who reveals an equally painful wound that never healed.

Ned Chaillet

Checkmate

Covent Garden

A Royal Ballet anniversary season without revivals of the founder's ballets would be unthinkable, and while regular ballet-goers might plead for the less-familiar *Job* to join her masterpiece, *The Rake's Progress*, in the repertory of the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, to spurn *Checkmate* when danced with as much drama and conviction as the company brought to it on Wednesday night would be truly wrong-headed.

True, it is very much a period piece, but a very good period piece. McKnight Kauffer's designs still make a strong effect, and de Valois has provided some really meaty roles, which the Sadler's Wells dancers make the most of. Arthur Bliss's score stands up remarkably well too, nicely played by the Covent Garden orchestra, conducted by Barry Wordsworth.

The Red Knight was one of David Ashmole's very first roles, and he now brings a greater authority to the clean-cut, schoolboy heroics of the character. As the Black Queen, Margaret Barbieri is steely strong, icy cold and fatally beautiful. David Bintley is making his debut as the Red King and, though he begins a little tentatively, his defiance of the invading black pieces, feeble in body but strong in spirit, is moving and effective.

The whole ballet, though, was really well performed, doubtless thoroughly rehearsed by de Valois herself. Every dancer seemed to know not only what he or she should be doing, but also why.

The evening, which ended with Kenneth MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations*, began with Galina Samsova's production of *Paquita*, the perfect tonic for tired Tsars. Samsova herself danced the leading role, handsomely partnered by Ashmole. With her unfussy Russian style, her lightness, strength and womanliness, she is a real ballerina. In the tricky fourth variation, Nicola Katrack looked every inch a future ballerina.

Judith Cruickshank

Manning/Guy

Spitalfields

"Well met by moonlight" was the title of the most off-beat of the concerts in this year's Spitalfields Festival. Spotlight rather than moonlight, to be precise, but in any case Hawksmoor's splendid Christ Church (its renovation still progressing) takes on a new grandeur in the dark; Wednesday's late-night concert ended just after midnight.

The programme was of pieces for soprano and double bass, many of them receiving their first London performances, from Jane Manning and Barry Guy. Moonlight was a common theme and the nightmare world of *Pierrot Lunaire* was never far away. Most striking of all was Richard Rodney Bennett's *Nightpiece*, his first electronic work, written in 1972 for Jane Manning. For this sinister Baudelaire setting, about evil influences preying on a small child. Bennett uses a tape featuring among other things his own voice. Miss Manning, lit in ghostly blue-green, gave a virtuoso performance, as indeed she did of all the items in the programme; this is the kind of music she is associated with and which she always does superbly.

The programme began with Nigel Osborne's *Madeleine de la Sainte Beaume*, whose text, dealing with the penitent Magdalene, is in Latin, Hebrew, Greek and Arabic. Using a wide vocal range and unconventional percussion instruments, Osborne's piece reaches a hysterical climax; the intensity of Miss Manning's performance was redoubled as her voice rang thrillingly round the church.

Barry Guy, too, was required to produce tone in unorthodox ways; his contribution throughout was dynamic and he had the stage to himself in Hubert Stupppner's *Ausdrucke, Rondo for a Clown*. Another neurotic piece, this, in which the performer, dressed as a clown, practises his instrument compulsively, competing with its sound on tape. All performing musicians will have found moments they identified with, but the piece as presented by Mr Guy is too farcical to be realistic, yet too manic to be amusing.

Other works were by Anthony Gilbert, Edward McGuire (*Moon Songs*) and Colin Seamarks (*Six Mehitabel Magpies*), the last striking a more successful chord of humour.

Barry Millington

Books

Unparalleled historical source

On Wednesday we recover from oblivion the lost moment of Tudor England. The Lisle letters are being published in six volumes by the Chicago University Press after almost 50 years of compiling and editing by Muriel St Clare Byrne, who had her eighty-sixth birthday on May 31. Men and women who have been dead for four and a half centuries seem to walk and talk and write to each other again in the dangerous world that Henry VIII bestrode like an unsteady Colossus. We have published for the first time an unparalleled source for sixteenth century social and political history.

Arthur Plantagenet, Viscount Lisle, was the illegitimate son of Edward IV. In 1533 Henry VIII appointed him Lord Deputy of Calais, England's last toehold in France. The elderly Plantagenet took with him his second wife, Lady Honor. For the next seven years every detail of their public and private lives was conducted by letter. All political acts had to be documented, because without a record one might be assumed guilty of negligence or worse by the suspicious king. But estates had to be run, food had to be bought, Lady Lisle's seven children by her previous marriage had to be educated and placed in the world, friends had to be cultivated, and news of what as going on back home in the sabre-toothed court had to be passed. For seven years letters were sent almost daily across the Channel between Arthur, his dear bedfellow, and their confidential agent and man-of-all-work and gossip, John Husee.

The paradox about the Lisle letters is that they give the most vivid picture of life at the top in Tudor England because the Lisles were expatriates in Calais, and had to do everything by letter.

In 1540 Lord Lisle was accused of treason, and the whole correspondence was seized by order of the tyrant king. Since then the 3,000 letters have been kept in 18 volumes known as State Papers III in the Public Record Office, seldom disturbed except by diligent Tudor historians on trawling expeditions, and unknown outside the small circle of scholars.

Muriel St Clare Byrne first met traces of them in a nineteenth-century selection of *Letters of Royal and Illustrious Ladies*. She met them again when working on her edition of *The Letters of King Henry VIII*, and decided that they deserved a wider audience. Miss Byrne was a bright young Somerville graduate, friend and literary executor of Dorothy Sayers, and about to be prolific author and writer of plays. For the next 50 years she kept herself by teaching at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, lecturing, and writing to make time for the Lisles. She lives in scholarly confusion in a terraced house in St John's Wood, with Tudor books and papers piled in haphazard heaps wherever there is a surface to take a pile, and Dorothy's favourite seat worn threadbare.

The splendid old lady retains the enthusiasms of the Somerville gal: "I laughed like a drain when I saw they had bound the letters in red, white, and blue with a touch of gold. . . . Letters are not my own favourite form of amusement: I never write one if I can avoid it."

In 1941 T. S. Eliot signed up the monumental project for Faber & Faber. Miss Byrne imagined that the Lisles had been evacuated to a place of safety with the other important state papers. Towards the end of the war she learnt that they had remained in the PRO throughout the Blitz, on the grounds that they were domestic not state papers, and ran home crying with relief.

Costs rose and the work grew until the manuscript would have filled 4,000 large printed pages. Fabers had reluctantly to drop out, and Chicago took up the Lisles. And here, after 50 years, they are, 1,687 letters, six volumes of 600 pages each, narrative, notes, comments, index, a manuscript weighing 50 lbs.

Put it another way. They are an unrivalled source of social history about every detail of the daily life of an upper class Tudor family. They are an unrivalled source for the development of the language, rich with examples of the natural writing of all sorts and conditions of men and women before the elaboration and artifice of the Elizabethans. They also throw light into black corners of Tudor politics, particularly the fall of Cromwell, the conventional view of Lisle as an incompetent old bungler, and the whole perilous relationship of the men at the top.

The letters indicate that Lisle was framed by Cromwell on the false charge that he was planning to betray Calais to Cardinal Pole. They illuminate much else that is dark in Tudor history. They bring back to life the long-dead. Read Husee on the execution of Anne Boleyn, or on the King's roving eye lingering on candidates for wife that we have never heard mentioned before. His "poor advice" is always shrewd; never more so that when he advises Lisle how to handle Henry VIII. If he *must* write to the King, then the fewer lines the better, "for I have heard say that his Grace loveth not to read long letters." These letters are a joy to read. They represent half a century of mountainous labour by the last of the old-fashioned, amateur, freelance scholars.

Philip Howard



How Mitterrand views himself and the world

In his first interview since his election, the French President talks to James Reston

Reston: In some parts of the West at present, including the United States and Britain, there seems to be a political move to the right. In France you have seemed to move to the left. Is that a problem?

President: I don't believe this should prove a problem. One cannot always agree on everything, at least not before discussing things. *One must first define ones aims.* If one's aim is to do all in one's power to safeguard peace, if that requires being able to negotiate without jeopardizing one's strength, ie, the world balance of power, if one believes in the usefulness of the Atlantic alliance, if one believes, as I do, in the fundamental unity of our civilization, then we can perfectly well talk even if the United States and Britain have *conservative Governments. And it is precisely among friends that one can say no.*

Reston: It seems almost that whatever problem comes up, it is discussed in East-West terms, whereas your emphasis is on North-South dialogue. Is that a rather serious difference of approach?

President: My position on East-West relations is simple: the defence of peace requires a world balance of power—an obvious statement—and a sufficiently balanced situation in Europe. I shall therefore always be in favour of what is required to maintain such a balance. That is why I was the first political leader in France to protest against the installation of SS-20 missiles on the Russian-German border.

When I was running for the presidency, neither the Americans, the Russians nor the German Government was very much in my favour. Luckily the French people were of a different opinion.

Reston: You have come to power saying you wish to nationalize more of the French economy. Mr Reagan has come to power promising to do exactly the pposite, to emphasize free enterprise. Is that a problem?

President: Mr Reagan's election correspond to a basic need felt by the American people to regain pride in themselves, to be more assured of their country's worldwide prestige. There was also the need to combat inflation and unemployment.

In France, people felt in the same way the need for leaders who were closer to them, to their worries, to their problems. *In that, the two countries are similar, not dissimilar.*

I am not planning to collectivize the French economy. I merely wish to restore to national ownership what belongs to the nation, nothing more. I do not see how this could be a difficulty between Mr Reagan and myself.

At present the share of French production which is nationalized following De Gaulle's action is 12 per cent. My proposals would increase that percentage to 17. General De Gaulle nationalized the civilian aircraft industry but not the military aircraft industry. Is that logical?

Reston: From my reading of what you have said in the past about the Israeli-Arab conflict, you seem to have taken a more sympathetic position toward Israel, and yet, as I understand what you have also said, you do favour a Palestinian state in east Jordan. Can those two ideas be reconciled

President: I have constantly expressed the same position at all times. In Algers, alongside President Boumedienne, speaking live on television, I said to the Algerians that nothing would be possible before they recognized Israel's right to exist.

I said the same thing in Cairo, to Sadat, long before the peace treaty. And I have always told my friends in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv that they should recognize that the Palestinians should have a homeland. I am a friend of Israel, and I shall do nothing to endanger Israel's existence nor the means to exist, but I do not think that it is realistic to pretend that the Palestinian problem does not exist.

I know what their objection is: they say they do not want an additional state in the Middle East. They would be prepared to envisage a Jordan-Palestinian solution as before the Six-Day War when the West Bank was called Transjordan. I am not telling them what they should do, because I am in favour of bilateral negotiations between opponents. I am simply saying that it is normal that the Palestinians should have a homeland where they will build, as they please, the structures of a state.



President Mitterrand: people in the West must strengthen their faith in their civilization.

I remain the friend of the Israeli leaders because I have always been very frank with them and they know that I would not pursue policies which would harm them.

I was the only leader of a major political party in France to have come out publicly in support of the Camp David agreements.

Reston: Are we getting into trouble with one another over South Africa?

President: The rejection of apartheid is important, not only on moral grounds but also on political grounds. I have a fairly good knowledge of black Africa, with which I have had numerous contacts throughout my political career. It would be unwise to encourage practices, such as apartheid, that are liable to cause serious problems for the continent. I would be against all racism. One has to accept the pre-eminence of great universal principles or abandon any hope of making progress in world society.

Reston: Is religion a part of this philosophy that you are talking about, that you feel essential to your secular work.

President: I come from a very *religious family. My mother had* eight children. She went to Mass at 6 each morning. She kept a diary when she was young, and I still have it. Her family was middle-class, fairly well off. She got up every morning at 5 and spent three hours a day in meditation. She was a friend of Francois Mauriac in her youth. When I became a student she sent me to see him and he became my friend. And despite political differences we remained friends until his death.

We come from the same part of France. We have the same landscapes in the mind's eye. We have certainly something religious in common—or rather, a feeling of transcendence.

Reston: In your inaugural statement you issued what I thought was a kind of cry for great plans and above all a cry for hope, almost as if you felt there was a danger of pessimism in Europe and in the West. Was that what was in your mind?

President: Without being a pessimist, what I do feel is that in the West and in the European communist countries there is no guiding thought. We are in a mechanized system in which thinking has become stereotyped, and in which people have not fully assimilated in their minds and in their hearts the new power of the information media.

Also, because of the economic crisis, most leaders tend to take a technocratic approach, as if life could be reduced to mere statistics.

I am not saying that I will be the one who will contribute new thoughts, but I do sense the need, in the West at any rate, for people to strengthen their faith in their civilization.

In many fields, such as the confrontation between the great powers, no real progress has been made on disarmament or genuine collective security.

This does not make me pessimistic, but it does lead me to hope that a different approach, another way of *looking at things, will prevail.*

Reston: On a more personal note: you seem to prefer lonely pursuits—walking, writing and reading. Is that correct?

President: That is true. I have chosen a political career which runs counter to a powerful streak in my personality. I already suffer from my personal freedom being curtailed, but yet I have chosen to do what I am doing. I must be more a man of action than I thought I was.

But I am not going to let my official duties invade my whole life. Man is like a tree, which needs to have its roots in fertile topsoil. If only the head is there, without roots in the life-giving soil, then there will be nothing but a mind repeating the same things over and over again in a vacuum, without inventing anything new, divorced from the source of life.

Inventiveness requires roots in the life-giving soil. It is by devoting time to solitary thought that I am able to keep my roots in the soil. Failing that, my actions would become sterile, ineffective. I must therefore organize my day so as to have time for thought.

David Watt

A setback or a stepping stone for Benn?

So Tony Benn has had his comeuppance. Or has he? At the *risk of being a death's head at* what is a very considerable feast, I must say I am not so sure as the great majority of the Parliamentary Labour Party appears to be.

Of course Michael Foot is better off than he was on Wednesday morning, not least because he has actually done something instead of appearing to sit around allowing Mr Benn to wrest power from his nerve*less grasp, and so forth. He has* reasserted ris leadership, presented his allies with some powerful arguments and some splendid gibes (that one about Mr Benn's wishing to turn the House of Commons into another castrated House of Lords is particularly felisitous) and, for the moment at least, he has recaptured the initiative.

However, to assume that this is anything like a knockout *blow is to misunderstand the* struggle for power in the Labour Party and the extent of Mr Benn's success in it.

The Been strategy, clearly, is in three parts. The first is to tilt the balance within the party sharply away from the House of Commons towards the extra-parliamentary centres of power—particularly the conference and the constituency parties where his support is greatest.

The *second is to enhance his* strength in these centres and especially to pick up more support among the rank and file of the trade unions.

The third stage is gradually to tighten his hold on the parliamentary party through the new reselection procedure for Labour MPs and by the imposition of a left-wing manifesto on the party.

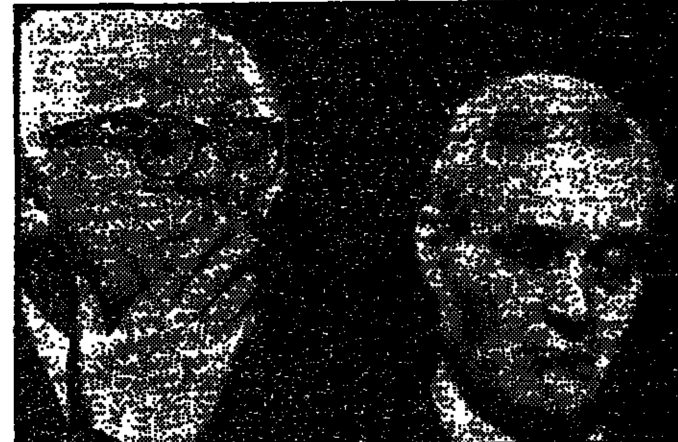
At some point on this route the leadership ought to fall into *his lap. The deputy leadership* is a useful stepping stone on this path, but no more. The present contest fits in neatly with his efforts to improve his standing in the union movement, and if he should win he removes a formidable right-wing obstacle to progress in the shape of Mr Healey. But even if he should lose the race this year (unless he loses ignominiously) he has plenty of time, *and the underlying shift can* continue.

Any plan for destroying this strategy should certainly start with a strenuous attempt to prevent Mr Benn being made deputy leader in October. This means that he must immediately be discredited among the trade union rank and file, for if he captures firm support in that sector of the party as well as in the constituency parties there *will be no stopping him.*

But the counter-attack has to go far deeper than that. For so long as the balance of the party constitution remains so heavily weighted against the parliamentary party, the underlying situation must remain favourable to the left.

In other words, Mr Benn has already achieved the first phase of his strategy and is now embarked on the second. He can be permanently checkmated only if his constitutional successes are reversed—that is, if the Conference rescinds the new procedures for electing the party leaders, and selecting parliamentary candidates.

Does Mr Foot's *coup de théâtre* on Wednesday set this counter-revolution in motion? It certainly helps that the leader has given clear notice that he will fight against the Bennite proposal that the parliamentary party and leadership should be deprived of effective influence over the revising of the manifesto. But he has given no indication of determination to push back into the terrain that has already been lost. A blistering scorn for Mr Benn's treatment of parliamentary democracy, however well justified, will not necessarily have any effect on the party outside Parliament—particularly on the unions, which Mr Benn is wooing so assiduously.



Mr Foot and Mr Benn: gibes but no knockout.

Let us look at the matter, for a moment, through the eyes of the average shop steward of the Transport Workers (a key figure on the scene at present, since the TGWU vote will probably decide the deputy leadership). The attraction of Mr Benn's pitch to such a man—who may not be more than mildly left-wing and probably cares little about Northern Ireland or the Trident—is that in one important respect Mr Benn is telling the truth and Mr Foot is not.

The fact of the matter is that the existing Shadow Cabinet really *cannot* be "trusted" to adopt the kind of left-wing economic policies that the Labour Conference, or even the TUC, are enjoining. Nor can it be "trusted" to take Britain precipitately out of the Common Market. Whatever one may think about Mr Foot's personal position in the political spectrum to date, the Shadow Cabinet has been for years, and remains, predominantly a centre-right body. The deputy leader himself is a right-of-centre figure whom our TGWU friend will remember mainly as the architect of monetarist economics and an incomes policy.

When Mr Benn comes along and says that this unreliable bunch of middle-class recidivists needs to be kept on the socialist straight and narrow, the prescription is unlikely to be rejected in the present mood; and when he says that it is Denis Healey who needs to be defeated, and not Michael Foot, he is merely stating what to any left-of-centre trade unionist is absolutely obvious.

If this is a common perception, it does not leave Mr Foot much ground for his famous challenge. The rank and file member outside Parliament cannot be expected to take the *question of the internal discipline* of the Shadow Cabinet terribly seriously. He could not perhaps be expected to know A. J. Balfour's description of the "irreconcilable difficulties" of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet in 1911: "Had it been a real cabinet . . . either the dissentient minority would have resigned or they would have silently acquiesced in the decision of the majority. There *could of course be no question* in the case of the shadow cabinet of resignation. There has certainly been no silent acquiescence".

However, it requires only a moderately good memory to recall that the entire right wing of the Shadow Cabinet voted with impunity against the Labour whip in the great Common Market debate in October 1971. And in the present case the extra-parliamentary conclusion is likely to be that the uniqueness of Mr Benn's offence is that he was in a minority of one, that he probably ought to have resigned, as Nye Bevan did on a similar occasion in 1954, but that if his behaviour was so dreadful, Mr Foot should follow Sir Harold Wilson's advice and get him specially booted off the committee by the parliamentary party.

In short, one cannot avoid the feeling that Mr Foot's statement addresses the wrong audience in the wrong way. The parliamentary party, which appreciates the reality of the Shadow Cabinet point, does not, on the whole, need to be harangued on the subject of Mr Benn. The constituency activists are out for power and are not going to be deflected whatever Mr Foot says.

The swing "voters", especially in the unions, are not going to be impressed by protestations that Mr Foot is as good a socialist as Mr Benn. This is an auction which Mr Foot will always lose because Mr Benn, having no responsibility, can always outbid him.

The only way for Mr Foot to expose Mr Benn as a fraud is to tackle his policies and prescriptions head on: to say *clearly* and repeatedly why protection and reflation would entail an incomes policy, why withdrawal from the EEC would be so difficult, why putting the UN into Northern Ireland is moonshine, why the United States is our most essential ally, and, above all, why our parliamentary system, which imposes several layers of restraint and argument between party demagogues and the formation of policy, is the best way of running a pluralistic society.

Mr Foot cannot do it, even if he wanted to, because he would split the party into shreds if he did. That is the measure of how far Labour has slipped into Mr Benn's grasp.

The author is Director of Chatham House but writes here in a personal capacity.

Frank Johnson

They know what they like in Warrington

Warrington

We knew we had reached the *militant North, for a feminist* slogan on a roadside wall explained: "Sutcliffe not mad, male." Militant North London, that is; Archway Road, Highgate, on the way to the M1.

One had read in *Time Out* about the hard life of folk up there in the Hampstead-Swiss Cottage conurbation—the lack of adequate crèche facilities for mothers studying psychology with the Open University, and so on. It was not surprising that Marx and even Mr Benn appeared to have support in these parts. Yet the lecturers and documentary film-makers who have historically provided the area with its industrial base are clearly attracted to the Social Democrats. Mr William Rodgers lured a crowd of 600 the other evening. Past row upon row of humble, yet proudly kept homes, furnished in the region's traditional "Habitat" materials, we pressed on towards Warrington.

On the journey the radio messages from London were indistinct. The Liberals would stand down for a Social Democrat, but only if the Social Democrat were famous. Fame undoubtedly sits on Mrs Shirley Williams and Mr Roy Jenkins, one mused. They would probably know of them in Warrington.

But did the definition include Professor David Marquand? No one doubts his ability. He once wrote the definitive life of Ramsay MacDonald. It was weighty. Indeed, it weighed about half a ton. But is he famous? Well, he looks a little like Mr Alan Bennett. Perhaps that will do.

Later crackling messages received from the capital when we were past the Newport Pagnall service area intimated that Mrs Williams was wavering. She might be too busy.

This raised the possibility of Mr Jenkins. That in turn raised the possibility of an epic confrontation between those famous, drawling, W-sounding Rs of his, and the equally picturesque speech of the people of Warrington. Mr Jenkins would stroll grandly around the town expressing the view that such and such a problem was a "*sewers martyr*".

The locals would be baffled. Who was this unknown hero of the local public health department? Eventually it would dawn on them that what he meant was that it was a "serious matter". In turn, they would express the view that he sounded a "daft bugger" to rhyme with "daft sugar".

The by-election would be a triumph for all who believe in fostering *mutual* misunderstanding between voters and politicians.

"Once you touch Manchester or any of its satellite towns you are really in Lancashire," Priestley wrote of the general region in his *English Journey*, published in 1934. "Why Lancashire should have become almost the official accent of music hall humour is something of a mystery . . . But that *rather flat but broad-vowelled* speech—much less attractive, to my ear and mind, than the companion speech of Yorkshire—is admirable for comic effect, being able to suggest either shrewdness or simplicity . . . It lends itself, too, to ironical under-statements."

Priestley praises the region's "impish delight in mocking whatever is thought to be affected and pretentious," but *then warns that such an attitude* means that people "may miss a lot by always being in terror of seeming affected or pretentious . . . Swaggering bad poets, for example, would have a wretched time of it in these parts, but so too would really good ones."

What, then, *do* all these rather flat, broad-vowelled, shrewd, simple, ironically-understating, poet-bashing music hall comedians think about a Social Democratic candidate at *their* forthcoming by-election? In so far as random conversations can ever be a guide in these matters—and what other guides are there?—the clear impression emerged that all possible Social Democratic candidates would be regarded as essentially poets. That is to say, unusual, airy-fairy, southern.

One concedes that people are not necessarily at their considered best when approached in the pub by a total stranger from the South and asked their opinion about, inter alia, someone called Professor Marquand. But, for example, Mr Nicholas Taylor, a young optician, and his friend Desmond, also an optician, sounded eminently sensible in the lounge of the Lord Daresbury

He did not seem to have heard of the professor. Worse, "most of our patients don't really know who Shirley Williams is", he said. If she wasn't Labour she wouldn't get in. These patients would vote Labour. So would most people. They think Labour is the party that gives them the benefits.

He himself had noticed that, when Labour were in, he got more business—more benefits, more patients. But what about Mr Foot and Mr Benn and extremism and all that? Wasn't *that putting people off*?

Desmond interjected to say that Mr Foot was regarded as "a geriatric joke" and Mr Benn was not particularly popular. But that did not make any difference. People's loyalty was to "Labour".

Next, one sought the opinion of Mr Harry Rigby, the chairman of the distillery which makes Vladivar, that brew which made Warrington famous even *before* the town become the object of the Social Democrats' determined vacillation. He was a Warringtonian and looked the part—solidly-built, cautious, knowledgeable about Rugby League. Would I care for some Vladivar? Certainly. Wasn't he having some himself. "No, not my drink. Bitter's mine, an occasional whisky too." Nothing wrong with Vladivar, mind.

He thought Mrs Williams would do rather well. She was an intelligent woman. But of course Old Labour would win. *Mr Rigby's view was representative of Warrington's ruling class.*

On the crucial question of who would win, it did not differ from that of the masses—though there was disagreement as to Mrs Williams's or Mr Jenkins's qualities. In the Bull's Head in Church Street, no one denied the intelligence of those politicians; they just did not attach importance to it.

People were more interested in the fact that I had met Mr Rigby, for Vladivar is a controversial subject—being regarded as an essentially effeminate substance made from the South. I ventured that, in fact, vodka wa sassociated with masculinity in places like Poland.

"But this isn't *bloody* Poland," said a drinker, with some of that deflating shrewdness noted by Priestley.

It is a difficult prospect for the Social Democrats. The local Labour Party is not going to oblige by putting up a Bennite or anyone especially raving. Because of the diversification of local industry, no single union dominates the local party selection process. Unlike a few miles away on Merseyside, there are few of those rancorous Trotskyites.

Admittedly, because it already begins with a W, Mr Jenkins will not sound wrong when he pronounces "Warrington." But if he does fight the seat he will be a much braver man than a lot of us have so far credited him and will deserve endless credit in the future.

THE TIMES DIARY

What's on: GLC cash for a new Time Out?

The dismissed staff of *Time Out*, London's weekly guide to what is on, which has been closed for a month because of a dispute, have been discussing financial and other forms of backing with the GLC *for an alternative but similar* publication.

Mandy Merck, union negotiator for the staff, says they have had "lots of messages of support" from Ken Livingstone, the new leader of the council; but Michael Ward, chairman of the GLC's industry and employment committee, also confirms that more practical assistance may be in the offing.

"That we would like to help them is clear", Ward says. "It is now up to them to tell us what they want. It could be in the way of a loan, a building or a grant." The GLC had a budget of £5m for job creation but planned to increase that figure greatly.

Ms Merck is emphatic that discussions with the GLC and other nameless big-business backers does not mean the *Time Out* staff have lost their commitment to their dispute. "We are delighted that people have made us offers", she said. "We see it as a wonderful safety net. But we are confident we are going to win."

Chance of fame

I don't expect there are many 10-year-olds reading this, not without moving their lips anyway. But I have news of interest to the younger set.

David Niven Senior and David Niven Junior are joining forces to make a film called *Ménage à trois* (the *au pair* will explain). Niven Senior stars, with Art Carney, as two—well, older men—who are left with a 10-year-old millionairess, the daughter of a recently dead very rich lady, a lover of both men. The only problem is: she never knew which was the father of her child.

Under the woman's will, the men must spend the summer with the girl; then she must choose between them, the winner receiving the rest of the fortune.

I can't reveal the ending (not out of modesty, but because Niven Junior, who is producing, wouldn't tell me); but the exciting part for budding Tatum O'Neals is that director Bryan Forbes has yet to cast the 10-year-old. Besides the money, the whole thing will be filmed during the summer between Monte Carlo and St Tropez. I may say that this is the last time this column will pass on such information free of charge. From now on, I intend to claim 10 per cent.



I can't make up my mind who are the more sensitive, the Saudis or the BBC. In postponing that Harold Robbins film the Beeb are giving a potboiling writer a significance he does not deserve. I suggest that what is needed, among the Saudi's especially, is a Jewish sense of humour.

And not just Brooklyn Jewish either. The good citizens of Bâsle are still enjoying a gentle chuckle over an advertisement in Juedische Rundschau, *an approximate Swiss equivalent of our* Jewish Chronicle.

The latest issue carries a full-page Swissair advertisement with a photograph of three tele-communications towers which show a marked resemblance to minarets. "Kuwait, one of four destinations in the Gulf", reads the ad, "one of twelve in the Middle East."

Good for the magazine that it didn't blow its top but published the ad, maintaining a fine balance between the traditional Jewish business sense and Swiss neutrality.

California calling

Ever since I visited the Napa Valley, north of San Francisco, I have been a fan of Californian wines. In fact, since they got their casking right, their better bottles have seemed just as good to me as French wines. (This will no doubt be seen by some readers as yet another example of the appalling taste that afflicts this column, along with my preference for Puccini over Wagner, Maseratis over bicycles, and blackpudding over bacon and eggs in the morning.)

So you may imagine my excitement the other night when I found that L'Escargot, the revamped restaurant in Greek Street, Soho, has become the only place I know which sells American wines and nothing else (save for sherry, port, etc). Moreover, the pleasure was doubled when I found Robert Mondavi, the Californian wine milioneire, seated at the next table.

Mondavi arrived by Concorde this week to promote his wines. His big news, for wine buffs anyway, is that later this month he will auction off the first cask of a wine that has been produced jointly by himself and Baron Philippe de Rothschild. It consists of Mondavi grapes (83 per cent Cabernet Sauvignon, 17 per cent Cabernet Franc) and de Rothschild knowhow, but there are plans for a collaborative vineyard in the Napa Valley.

The cask is being sold for charity; Michael Broadbent, MW of Christie's, is flying out to officiate at the auction), and when it comes on the market commercially in 1983 Mondavi expects it to be the most expensive wine California has yet produced.

His adventure with de Rothschild, he says, began in the baron's bedroom. Apparently it is the practice occasionally to spend the entire morning in bed, doing business. *Not inappropriate*, in a way I see from *The Great British Breakfast*, which is published by Michael Joseph later this month, that claret (which is what Cabernet Sauvignon is) used to be a natural choice in the sixteenth century for a breakfast beverage. I shall risk it with my black pud.

More teasers

Four more news teasers. This week, however, the questions are a little easier. *The answers appear* on the court page today.

1. What do the Aga Khan and Michael Vicary have in common?
2. Who *won't* be seen on Israeli TV?
3. Who looked as though "she had just stepped out of a shower"?
4. It has been a bad week for pirates. Why?

Peter Watson

Members of the Wedding (5)

Beside *Lord Fatman, Baubles Hamstrung sat*—
And really, for that table, that was that—
The *Soameses* were all there, *Enoch to Emma*;
The *Joneses* were there too—*Jack, Freddie, Gemma*
Tom, James, James-Earl, Ann, David, David Pryce—
I hope I haven't put the same *Jones* twice.



From *Charles Charming's Challenges on the Pathway to the Throne*, by Clive James with illustrations by Marc, to be published on Monday by Cape at £4.95.

Business contacts

The fifth Business to Business Exhibition opens on Sunday at Earls Court, London, and runs until Wednesday

Derek Harris, Commercial Editor, discusses some of the nearly 100 forms of financial aid available

Small firms overlook chances of help

Central government services and other national ones of potential benefit to businessmen, together with those offered at local and regional level, are myriad. There are nearly 100 different forms of purely financial aid to industry available through government departments or the EEC.

It is hardly surprising that many companies, particularly the smaller ones, overlook chances of help, either financial or operational. Part of the problem is that so many services are comparatively little known. There are exceptions, among them the banks-backed Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation (ICFC), the many services of the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) and the Department of Industry's Small Firms Service. With publicity, inquiries have been soaring.

The BOTB's general export services branch was in touch with more than 10,000 companies last year, a third more than in 1979, and the Small Firms Service has been reporting a 60 per cent increase in the demand for its advice and counselling services so far this year compared with the same period of 1980. It demonstrates how big is the pent-up demand for help.

Next to the local clearing bank the small businessman in search of capital probably thinks next of ICFC, which specializes in loans from £5,000 to £2m. But there are many other sources of various forms of financial aid in the public sector ranging from the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA) and the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) to the government factories scheme operated by the English Industrial Estates Corporation and aid in particular sectors such as that dispensed by the tourist boards.

Money for Business, an excellent guide prepared by the Bank of England and the City Communications Centre, lists scores of sources of capital from insurance companies, leasing companies and factors, as well as banks, with more than 30 possibilities in the public sector alone from development boards and the new towns, to little-known aids by way of the British Steel Corporation and British Rail.

There is about £750m in government money which a businessman might be able to lay claim to in the various forms of industrial aids and incentives, according to another guide, *Industrial Aids in Britain 1981*, out last month from Strathclyde University. The great number and variety of aids make it hard for companies eligible for government help to know what they can claim, as this guide — an equally excellent one — points out.

It is the first time that so much information has been made available between a single set of covers on all the various forms of aid, which extend from employment grants to capital grants, from low-interest loans to equity finance, from training aids to tax concessions, from factory provision to rent concessions. It is the more comprehensive of the two guides although the Bank of England's more specialized survey is a useful complement.

For the exporter the BOTB's services are extensive. It runs an export intelligence service, a market research scheme, gives advice on individual overseas markets and recently has been involved in a market entry guarantee scheme to help smaller manufacturers to deal with the financial risks and problems of developing new export markets. Its joint venture scheme underpins overseas trade exhibitions and similar promotions and there is also help for trade missions going abroad. It can advise on tariff and non-tariff barriers overseas.

Among aid schemes operated by the Department of Trade is the Overseas Projects Fund under which pre-contract expenses are met when large-scale overseas contracts are being pursued, the aid being repayable only when a contract is won. The Export Credits Guarantee Department not only offers blanket insurance cover for exporters but various specialist services including cover against cost escalations during a contract period, guarantees on bank financing and cover for investment made in an overseas company. Many trade associations can also offer advice on exporting; so do some local chambers of commerce.

Worth trying for other industrial information and advice are the industrial development offices which many local authorities now have. Where there is an industrial development officer he can often be especially helpful in speeding what might otherwise easily be protracted dealings with various local authority departments. Various regional development agencies can offer advice on a broader geographical front, as on regional suppliers or possible business contacts.

For the small businessman in pursuit of help and advice, whether it is on starting a business or dealing with subsequent operational problems, probably the best first step is to try one of the Department of Industry's 11 regional centres in its Small Firms Service. They are primed to deal with most types of business inquiry from finance and diversification to marketing, industrial training and corporate planning.

There is a counselling service which operates regionally, with 130 or so counsellors — all experienced businessmen — with a range of special skills including accountancy, marketing and production.

The Small Firms Service has produced a number of helpful booklets covering subjects like bookkeeping, management accounting, the impact of microprocessors on small business starting to export, and tendering for government contracts. The Department of Industry has also just produced some other pamphlets, one on how to find business premises and another on employing people for the first time, covering the many practical problems involved.

Another looks at how tax incentives can help, with an indication of what small companies can expect from the Chancellor's latest proposals for a business start-up scheme (aimed at encouraging investors to put money into small companies) and for a loan guarantee scheme that should encourage banks to lend more readily to small businesses.

The British Institute of Management also runs an advisory service for small businesses. A counselling service is also operated by the Institute of Marketing. Apart from CoSIRA there are other development boards in rural areas which tend to deal primarily with small businesses, and include the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Development Board for Rural Wales.

Confidential help for companies with problems or inquiries involving the EEC and its member countries is offered by the Department of Industry's EEC Information Unit. *British Business*, published weekly by the Department, regularly includes a selection of answers to EEC-oriented questions when they are not specific to a particular company as well as being a source of other information useful to companies.

The EEC Information Unit has a useful booklet *EEC — Your Questions Answered* and there is a three-part guide (covering how the Community works, knowing the market and how to keep in touch) for which there is a small charge, the rest of the unit's service information being free.

The Brussels-based Business Cooperation Centre, set up by the European Commission, offers a free service in setting up joint business ventures involving companies in different countries of the community.

The centre can also help with information on company law in all parts of the Community and on EEC provisions affecting cooperative business ventures.

There are more than 25 different forms of aid available from various EEC organizations, all identified in the Strathclyde guide. They range from help on uranium, prospecting and aid on energy saving to various research schemes of the European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund aid for schemes such as training and retraining after redundancy.

Money for Business: *Bank of England and City Communications Centre; copies from Bulletin Group, Economics Division, Bank of England, Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8AH (£2).*

Industrial Aids in Britain 1981: A Businessman's Guide *by Gesa Walker and Kevin Allen: copies from Centre for Study of Public Policy, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow (£8.95 paperback, £11.95 hardback).*

Contacts:

AID

Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation
91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XP

National Research Development Corporation
Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL

Department of Trade Projects and Export Policy Division
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H OET

English Industrial Estates Corporation
Team Valley, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE11 ONA

Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas
Queens House, Fish Row, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 1EX

Development Board for Rural Wales
Ladywell House, Newtown, Powys, SY16 1JB

Highlands & Islands Development Board
Bridge House, Bank Street, Inverness, IV1 1QR

EXPORTING

British Overseas Trade Board, Export Services and Promotions Division
Export House, Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7HM

Export Credits Guarantee Department
Publicity Branch, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London, EC2P 2EL

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry
11th floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London, SW1P 4QU

Business Co-operation Centre
17 rue Archimede, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

SMALL BUSINESSES

Department of Industry Small Firms Service:
11 regional centres including Wales and Scotland with 50 area counselling offices: dial 100 and ask for national Freefone 2444

British Institute of Management Small Business Service
Management House, Parker Street, London, WC2 5PT

Institute of Marketing, Marketing Advisory Service
Moor Hall, Cookham, Berks, SL6 9QH


Illustration: Peter Brookes

Have you joined the revolution?

The information revolution, whose widespread and ultimately far-reaching implications for industrialized society have yet to be fully realized by the mass of people, is having one of its most remarkable effects in the world of industry and commerce.

Much of the success of any business enterprise is dependent upon the need to communicate data quickly and effectively from seller to buyer, office to office, company to company, country to country. And already there are the means available for the exchange of information on a scale undreamt of a couple of decades ago.

So far, only the first rumblings of the revolution have been heard, but does today's business decision-maker fully appreciate the range of hardware and services that are now at his disposal?

While the small or medium-sized company may not need, or be able to afford satellite links or international video systems, there is a bewildering array of other technological marvels aimed at increasing efficiency by means of rapid communications.

British Telecom claims to offer a wider range of products for the business user than any other public organization of its type in the world, from the humble telephone answering machine to the most advanced computer data transmission system, British Telecom, now split from the Post Office, says it is updating its operations and introducing new equipment which will be of particular value to its two million small business and 300,000 large industrial users.

The state group can provide radiopaging services, loudspeaking telephones, telephones with a built-in memory that enables preselected numbers to be obtained at the push of a button, exclusive national and international telephone circuits, a conference service which links individuals or groups in different cities by sound and vision, and the Prestel public viewdata service.

Perhaps the most advanced of British Telecom's new services is PSS, the first public national network designed and equipped specifi-

continued on page III

The questions to ask on the way to the bank

Borrowing has become so fashionable that it is well to remember that many British companies survive and some even prosper without incurring debts on anything but a transitory basis. They do so by relying on personal capital, or by investment by members of the owner's family, and in time by generating surplus cash to put back into the business.

Such prudence is frowned on by those who treat money as a commodity — so much stock to be disposed of — and talk of cash-flow as they would of the philosopher's stone. But when cash ceases to flow, or is diverted to competitors, the business is left with nothing coming in and everything going out.

So the first thing a businessman should ask himself on the way to the bank is whether he really has to have a loan. The second is whether the advantages of having more money will outweigh the problems of paying for it and restrictions on his freedom of action imposed by some form of financing.

The bank is still the commonest source of financial help and advice, whether it be the local branch of one of the big clearers, or the boardroom of a merchant bank.

Loan applicants who have been rebuffed echo the Ogden Nash comment that banks are institutions which lend you money provided you can prove you do not need it. At their City headquarters, bankers will put their hands on their hearts (their suits have the wallet-pocket on the left) and assure you that times have changed. They are willing, nay eager, to lend to companies which come to them with sound propositions.

There are modest hopes for the government-backed scheme to guarantee loans to small businesses. Since it was announced in the Budget it has been the subject of hand-to-hand fighting between Whitehall and Threadneedle Street. One experienced City man said he expected the main influence would be in persuading old-fashioned branch managers that it was safe to lend money on less than cast-iron security.

Pessimism prevails about that other Budget investment idea — tax relief for those willing to risk money in new enterprises. At present this seems to be so hedged about with restrictions to prevent the scheme being used for tax avoidance that only a really skilled tax avoider could take advantage of it without breaking the law.

There is a wealth of literature on raising money — my own favourite is entitled *Debt Collection Letters in Ten Languages* — but if you wish to go to the fountainhead, the Bulletin Group of the Bank of England has produced *Money for Business* at £2. In a foreword to the booklet, Sir Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank, says: "Funds are almost always available for good projects, large or small, but owners and managers may often not be aware of the full range of sources of funds, nor of the means of access to them".

Although it includes extensive lists of providers and arrangers of finance, the booklet suggests that each business should seek a trusted financial adviser for its particular problem. Some of the professional bodies concerned will be found in the list accompanying this article.

However trusted the advice, the prospective borrower should take time to read the small print and ask questions before signing.

Apart from the familiar ground of overdrafts, trade credit, factoring, invoice discounting, mortgages, sale and leaseback, and other devices, *Money for Business* reveals lesser-known sources. Some insurance companies now consider requests for long-term finance, and so do pension funds.

One curiosity that deserves to be better known is a provision of the Railways Act 1974. Discretionary cash grants are available to any business that contemplates sending freight by rail instead of road, and is willing to invest in special handling gear and premises or to buy private wagons.

Government grants and loans can be obtained for certain purposes or in areas with special status, but these are best considered in relation to development agencies. Regional aid is also provided, in loan form, by the European Investment Bank. This has been extended to small firms in assisted areas which require £15,000 to £50,000 for capital expenditure.

Launching this scheme, which requires payment of fixed interest at 14 per cent, Mr John MacGregor, the minister concerned, described it as "cheap long-term loan money".

Perhaps we should not be too professional in the quest for finance, but should be alert for the unexpected solution. As I was writing this article a letter from a mail order concern arrived inviting me to subscribe to a magazine which promises to show me "how to win the battle for business success, and make your fortune at the same time", with advice on borrowing money and avoiding bankruptcy.

On the point of throwing it away, I noticed the accompanying offer of a share-tipping service, which had at the top of its list a company in which I invested early last year. Could the tipster really be as smart as I am? Since the combined subscriptions to the twin services come to fear I shall never find out.

Patrick O'Leary

Contacts:

National Enterprise Board
12-18 Grosvenor Gardens
London SW1W 0DW
Tel.01- 730 9600

Business Finance Information
c/o British Insurance Association
Aldermary House
10-15 Queen Street
London EC4N 1TU
Tel: 01-248 4477

The National Association of Pension Funds
Sunley House
Bedford Park
Croydon CR0 0XS
Tel: 01-681 2017

The Stock Exchange
The Quotations Department
Old Broad Street
London EC2N 1HP
Tel: 01-588 2355

Association of Certified Accountants
29 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3EE
Tel: 01-242 6855

Corporation of Mortgage, Finance and Life Assurance Brokers
88 Victoria Road
Aldershot
Hampshire GU11 1SS
Tel: 0252 315681

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
PO Box 433
Chartered Accountants' Hall
Moorgate Place
London EC2P 2BJ
Tel: 01-628 7060

The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants
63 Portland Place
London W1N 4AB
Tel: 01-637 2311

Do exhibitions give real returns?

Some companies, particularly large ones, have been convinced for a long time of the value of trade exhibitions and conferences. About £500m a year is spent on conferences in Britain, a substantial slice oriented towards promotion of trading. There are up to 1,000 trade exhibitions up and down Britain every year, while abroad the British Overseas Trade Board alone was involved last year in helping to promote nearly 300 exhibitions for British industry and commerce, apart from another 200 or so trade missions.

Some industries are heavily dependent on exhibitions: the clothing fashion industry is a specialist case but toy selling revolves, for small as well as large manufacturers, around a handful of exhibitions in Britain and abroad where in the first couple of months of the year retailers and wholesalers make their basic decisions about ordering for the Christmas trade.

So-called brown goods — radios, television sets, audio equipment and some smaller electrical appliances — are another sector where the variety of items on offer is best displayed at an exhibition.

Like the toy industry before it, brown goods manufacturers next year graduate from trade shows spread around a number of hotels in London to an integrated exhibition at Earls Court. The toy makers, as well as going to Harrogate to cater for northern buyers, until a couple of years ago spread themselves around Brighton's hotels for their main annual toy fair. Since then integrated exhibitions, proving far more efficient for both manufacturer and customer, have been held in big exhibition centres such as those in Birmingham and in London.

But in sectors less committed to the big central exhibitions it is not so easy for, say, the sales manager of a medium-sized company to decide to spend probably several thousand pounds taking the exhibition route to sales. Exhibition organizers know the problem well and find it hard not to suspect that in the heart of every undemonstrative Briton there is some distrust of events — that necessarily involve a touch of showmanship.

How much is being spent for real returns? That inevitably and rightly — is the question being asked. Are not the big orders everybody shouts to the media about, as at the motor shows, merely stage managing of contracts that would be placed anyway by, say, the big car fleet operators?

That the answer may be affirmative merely underlines the flamboyance characteristic of any successful big exhibition. Unfortunately British manufacturers are still learning to be hard-nosed, brash salesmen. An exhibition does uniquely put together in one place and in the space of a day or two a wide spread of sellers and buyers who could otherwise spend far more time, and incur more travelling cost, getting in touch over sample wares.

That does not mean that any sales or marketing director should plunge into exhibitions uncritically. Without careful planning the cost can be exorbitant. The records of an exhibition and of the centre to be used deserve careful scrutiny. Olympia and Earls Court, London's principal exhibition centres, allowed their standard of amenities to decline until competition from the National Exhibition Centre jolted them into heavy investment to compete with Birmingham. Since then some of the big exhibitions have returned to London.

Where industries are particularly oriented towards exhibitions as the selling norm, even small manufacturers often cannot afford not to participate. But for others the advantages of an exhibition can be bought for a few hundred pounds.

Mr Maurice Collins, of the London-based firm Silver & Collins & Co, which is organizing The Times and Sunday Times Business to Business Exhibition, is an exhibition organizer who has exploited localized exhibitions as well as the larger national ones. If well-promoted, small exhibitions can still attract buyers from all parts of the country and abroad, he says. Unit space can run from £250 to about £400, excluding the cost of the display.

At a recent exhibition in Hackney, London, a local minicab company, relying on a do-it-yourself hand-written display, built up £2,000 a week of business from the exhibition, according to Mr Collins.

Many resorts are improving facilities to attract this level of custom although big, new conference centres such as Harrogate, Brighton and Scarborough as well as the longer-established ones such as Blackpool, also can accommodate small exhibitions and conferences. The tourist boards of England, Scotland and Wales offer guidance on facilities available.

Derek Harris

Contacts:

Exhibitions:
Exhibition Bulletin (monthly): London Bureau, 266-272 Kirkdale, Sydenham, London SE26 4RZ; by annual subscription £17 (overseas £20)

Exhibition organizers:
Lists and advice from Association of Exhibition Organizers, 17 Castle Street, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP13 6RU

Conferences:
No central listing but Association of Conference Executives (ACE) publishes a guide which not only lists organizers but includes many local authorities with conference involvement. The latter could supply details of conference programmes in their area.

Conference organizers:
Buyers' Guide: Association of Conference Executives, 72 Ermine Street, Huntingdon, PE18 6EZ; £5

Services for conferences and exhibitions (displays, audio-visual, promotional props, furniture):
London Bureau's *Exhibition Bulletin* (see above)
ACE *Buyers' Guide* (see above)

Overseas exhibitions and promotions:
British Overseas Trade Board Publicity Unit, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET

Hotels with exhibition and conference facilities:
Extensive list from British Association of Conference Towns, International House, 20 Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (about £7.50)
The British Tourist Authority produces a guide to international conferences in Britain: *International Conference Calendar 1981-88*; BTA, 64 St James's Street, London SW1A 1NF (£2)
The London Convention Bureau (4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU) produces free guides to London exhibition facilities and key conferences and trade shows.

Promotion has an enhanced position

The attitude of the business world towards promotion has changed dramatically during the past decade. In the recession of 1973 and 1974, manufacturer after manufacturer looked at his promotion budgets and decided that they were useful during good times but luxuries when the going was bad.

Advertising revenues fell, public relations activity was reduced, and, when the recession was over, it was plain that the result was that sales had also been sent spiralling downwards.

It is for this reason that promotion today holds a much enhanced position in most companies' list of priorities. Advertising has shown that it works; during the 1979 commercial television strike the sales of a number of brand goods actually fell during the period they were unable to advertise on national television.

For any new or expanding company the fight to make potential buyers aware of its product is as important as making the right goods or producing the right service at the right price. But how does a manufacturer go about choosing the agencies which will help him to promote his product? As far as advertising is concerned, the intitial steps are simple.

There are about 750 advertising agencies in Britain. Between 85 and 90 per cent of all British advertising placed by agencies in newspapers, magazines, television, radio and posters, some £1,700m last year, is placed by the 312 members of the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising.

The IPA represents the collective views of its member agencies in discussions and negotations with government departments and industry groups, and is a good starting point for anyone looking for an advertising agency.

It offers a free confidential service to advertisers who, after discussing their needs with the IPA, will be given a short list of suitable agencies, picked because of their special knowledge of the advertisers' product area or individual needs.

Two IPA publications should be read by advertisers before thay make a decision on which agency to choose. *What advertising does*, which is free, is a brief introduction to the subject which discusses advertising's role in the marketing complex, costs, client/agency partnerships, and what can be achieved from a campaign.

Some suggested provisions for use in agency/client agreements (£5) is a check list of the details which are likely to be found in the first agreement between an agency and its client.

A new book, *Advertising works* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, £10), is a good introduction for anyone who wants to understand the creation of an advertising campaign and the measurement of how successful it has been. The book consists of papers produced for the IPA's 1980 Advertising Effectiveness Awards and details how clients and agencies discussed their needs, formulated an advertising strategy, and, in some cases, produced quite spectacular sales results.

The product areas vary from new and established products, to direct response and industrial and financial campaigns, so most interests are covered.

But when the short list arrives, how does one pick the right agency? According to Mr David Wheeler, the IPA's director, the ideal relationship is one where the agency is treated as a partner, where the people working on the account are in tune with the client's objectives and understand the problems of his market.

When a short list of three or four agencies is decided, the manufacturer might commission, for a nominal fee, presentations on a competitive basis. Advertising agencies which belong to the IPA have to be full service; they have to be able to offer a full range of services to meet advertisers' requirements, from market research and media planning to creating campaigns and design work.

Advertising agencies often have an accompanying public relations organization. Anyone looking for a public relations consultancy could also contact the Public Relations Consultants Association (PRCA) which believes it represents about 75 per cent of the country's agencies. The PRCA publishes a yearbook, price £12, which lists members and the accounts they have held for more than three years and includes a number of editorial articles about what to consider when choosing a PR consultant.

Like the IPA, the PRCA is willing to discuss client's requirements confidentially and recommend a short list of suitable consultancies. Whether you choose a PR through your advertising agency or go outside, it is important that all the different areas of a promotion campaign are in contact with each other, and that the message they are trying to put across is a coordinated one.

David Hewson

Contacts:

Institute of Practitioners in Advertising
44 Belgrave Square,
London SW1
Tel: 01-235 7020

Public Relations Consultants' Association
37 Cadogan Street,
Sloane Street,
London SW3 2PR
Tel: 01-581 3951

هكذا من الأصل

Watchdogs ever alert to safety first

All people at work — whether they are employers, employees or self-employed; manufacturers, suppliers, designers and importers of materials; or people in control of premises — have legal responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act that came into force six years ago. In practice, the onus for these regulations falls mainly on the employer.

So another part of the modern businessman's skill is obviously to be acquainted with the sort of activities that are covered by the health and safety provisions. At the barest minimum, a pamphlet called *A guide to the Health and Safety at Work Act* should be on that vital reference shelf which ought to be regarded as necesssary to a business venture as the insurance policies for fire, damage and third party risk.

At a first glance, the laws on health and safety may appear to be appropriate for large industrial and commercial enterprises, probably with a safety committee of management and trade union representatives. This is far from reality. But the true position is apparent only by examining how the bureaucracy which supervises this service, the Health and Safety Executive, is organized.

When the legislation was reformed to create the executive, a number of organizations that were scattered through government departments were brought under one wing. They are the safety inspectorates called agriculture, alkali and clean air, explosives, factory, mines and quarries, and nuclear installations.

The best way of demonstrating how one of these inspectorates might have an influence on a small enterprise is to give an example. A typical situation would be the issuing of an improvement notice to a small specialist engineering workshop by a factory inspector.

The reasons given on the document might say that the direct gas-fired evaporating oven in the paint shop is not fitted with suitable explosion reliefs. An appeal can be lodged to an industrial tribunal. Failure to make recommended safety changes makes a company or individual liable to a £1,000 fine for this particular offence and a further sum of up to £100 a day if an offence continues.

Similarly, a prohibition notice issued by the Agriculture Inspectorate to a farmer might specify the dangers to employees of electrical equipment.

The law requires employers to prepare a written statement on safety policies in any undertaking employing more than five people. And the regulations specify clearly the difference between an "undertaking" and an "establishment".

A businessman operating a number of small establishments, such as retail shops, each employing less than five people, is liable to prepare a policy statement. It might be interesting to discover how many organizations employing more than 500 people have such a statement.

Moreover, the obligations of the employer extend beyond his own workforce to cover outside contractors, workers employed by them and to members of the public, whether within or outside the workplace, who may be affected by the activities of the business.

The sorts of things covered by the last group extend, for example, to risks to the public outside the premises from fire or explosion, from falls of unsafely erected scaffolding or from the release of harmful substances into the atmosphere.

This is only the merest outline of the topics covered under the health and safety laws which deal individually with all the categories of industry, specific health problems, and items such as the notification of new substances regulations, noise, packaging and labelling of dangerous materials, and conveyance by road.

A guide to the Health and Safety at Work Act; from the Stationery Office, £2.75.

The headquarters of the Health and Safety Executive is: 1/13 Chepstow Place, London W2 4TF. Tel: 01-229 3456.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The agencies that matchmake for areas and industries

The really thorough approach for a businessman looking for somewhere to start a new enterprise or transfer an existing one is to drive round until he sees a place that looks right for him. He should then make contact with someone already established there and ask him what the snags are and whether the benefits outweigh them.

However, as this method, although enjoyable, is leisurely, it is more usual to enlist the services of a development agency or industrial estate agent to do the preliminary sifting of sites. The Department of Industry issues *Government Aid for Industrial Development in the United Kingdom* which, with merciful brevity, indicates the help available for particular industries, and for particular areas, and where they are.

A point emphasized by the ministry is that inquiries about eligibility for grants or loans should be made before a company commits itself to spending money on any project.

Government incentives to attract industry to fresh locations have changed the British landscapes since the last war, most noticeably in the new towns. Regional development associations, generally in the northern half of the country, have also played a part. Most cities and other urban authorities have some form of industrial office armed with the local variant of inducements to companies looking for a home. Even London boroughs, after years of driving out industry, are now encouraging small private enterprises.

British Steel has a subsidiary which helps to create jobs in areas where it has closed plants. Private firms which have shed labour have also put money into job-creation schemes. Large chains of stores, such as W.H. Smith and Tesco, sometimes offer redundant shops to their managers on special terms.

About a hundred representatives of cities, companies and big organizations attended a conference on local enterprise agencies held by the Department of the Environment in London in May. Such agencies take a variety of forms, but usually consist of business and public bodies joining to offer advice to small firms starting up or seeking to expand or relocate.

The London Enterprise Agency, which has been operating for two years, arranges courses, helps small firms through exhibitions, and runs a marriage bureau to match small firms with investors, partners and markets. Fees are charged, but the agency receives financial backing from several member companies and from a European Community grant.

The Government has taken a number of initiatives aimed at stimulating new investment — some would say too many, and would welcome stability in the incentive scene. The most spectacular should be in operation in a few weeks — the enterprise zones, where sweeping tax and rate concessions will be made to both industry and commerce. First are likely to be Corby, Dudley, and Swansea. Others will follow in Clydebank, Hartlepool, Newcastle/Gateshead, Salford/Trafford, Speke, Wakefield, Belfast, and the Isle of Dogs in London.

Such zones have not lacked critics. Companies already established in towns near them are worried about unfair competition. Mr W. Poeton, of the Union of Independent Companies, said: "We are opposed to enterprise zones, and think what we need are enterprise sectors".

Mr Poeton also thought grants to workers moving from one area to another were too low: "It is so mean; the man moves, has to live in digs, and the family breaks up. In the United States the whole household moves, grandma as well."

Various costs, including local rates, can influence choice of location. Figures collected by the Society of Metropolitan Treasurers show that four English urban districts pushed their general rates above £2 in the £ this year. It would be invidious to name them, if only because I live in one of them. Whatever the influence of high rates on decisions about where to go, they certainly drive many concerns out of decaying cities.

Average weekly earnings are highest in the south-east of England and lowest in the south-west, according to figures issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. But studies undertaken by the Cambridge Department of Applied Economics show that earnings of manual workers in the regions of the United Kingdom are converging, so that savings in labour costs by moving may eventually disappear.

In this respect Scotland has roughly drawn level with England. Apart from North Sea oil, wage rates have been influenced by the multinational companies which have moved into Scottish manufacturing. There may be other considerations for the businessman, such as the productivity and skills of the available labour and the rate of turnover in staff.

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland all have their own development agencies. If British industry was growing as fast as the agencies and pressure groups intent on helping it, the boom would be upon us. Some rationalization seems necessary to replace the present rivalry between regions and even neighbouring towns. Unhappily, if a coordinating body were introduced, it might mean further procrastination in deciding on applications.

An official of the Economic Development Corporation of the West German state of North Rhine-Westphalia told me recently that he has 150 different packages to offer businessmen setting up there. We British have not reached that stage yet, but we will.

P.O'L.

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FOR REGIONAL AID AND OTHER SOURCES OF INVESTMENT AID
Department of Industry
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Abell House (room 435)
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There are local offices in Newcastle upon Tyne, Manchester, Leeds, Birmingham, Nottingham, Plymouth, Bristol and Kensington.

Welsh Office Industry Department
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Scottish Economic Planning Department
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FOR NORTHERN IRELAND
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Association of British Chambers of Commerce
Sovereign House
212A Shaftesbury Avenue
London WC2H 8EW
Tel: 01-240 5831
Commission for the New Towns
Glen House
Stag Place, Victoria
London SW1E 5AJ
Tel: 01-828 8631
London Enterprise Agency
69 Cannon Street
London EC4N 5AB
Tel: 01-236 2676/77

Have you joined the revolution?

continued from page I

cally for the transmission of data by computers and terminals throughout Britain. One of its main advantages is that customers will be able to communicate with terminals working at different speeds. PSS, which has been designed to complement existing services such as Datel and Dataplex, is being evaluated by 36 selected customers.

Also available across the country soon will be British Telecom's Monarch and Herald digital switchboard systems.

Monarch, the larger of the two, is installed in 80 offices in London and Scotland. Using the latest in microprocessor technology, the central switching equipment is housed in a box no bigger than a filing cabinet and the operator's console has touch sensitive keys, an alpha-numeric display and numerous memory-controlled functions.

In addition, British Telecom is to start next year a high-speed desk-to-desk message service. Users will be able to type letters, internal memorandums and other messages into terminals, then relay the correspondence directly to the recipient over the telephone network.

Away from the wonders of the microchip, the Post Office itself offers a number of special services for businessmen, including Datapost, by which urgent packages of up to 5kg are delivered throughout Britain overnight, and Intelpost, the public facsimile transmission service linking 18 towns and cities in Britain and connecting with certain towns in Canada, the United States and Holland.

For an extra £1.25, letters and packets can be delivered anywhere in the world by Swiftair and normally arrive at least one day in advance of normal air mail. In London and 27 important provincial towns the Post Office has introduced Expresspost which offers a same-day collection and delivery service by messenger for letters and packages. To compete with the growing number of private delivery services in London the Post Office has just brought into operation a fleet of radio-controlled motor cycles.

Other Post Office services include the Business Reply and Freepost, a redirection service for direct response advertisers using television, press, radio or direct mail, and various discount and incentive schemes.

Businessmen should be aware, for example, that a mailing of 5,000 second-class letters qualifies for a 15 per cent discount rising to 30 per cent for a million or more.

For the really urgent delivery of small parcels, needed by the recipient perhaps within a few hours, British Rail's Red Star package service should not be forgotten. The scheme, which earns British Rail £32m a year, is based upon personal delivery to and collection from 900 principal railway stations and the parcels are transported on Inter-City passenger trains.

A 5kg parcel sent from Oxford to London costs £3.50 exclusive of VAT and at the owner's risk. On the same basis, two parcels of 5kg and 10kg travelling from Carlisle to London cost £8.85.

Edward Townsend

Contacts:

British Telecom services
Information from any local telephone sales office

Datel and Dataplex
Freefone 2170 or 01-432 1813

PSS Marketing
1 Swan Lane, London EC4R 3TH
01-357 4061

Datapost
01-432 1919/20

Expresspost
Freefone 2333

Intelpost
Freefone 2463
More information about other Post Office services from head or district postmasters

Red Star parcel service
Principal railway stations

BUSINESS CONTACTS

Hire — and get a new lease of life

In the past few years British companies have turned increasingly to leasing, rather than purchasing, their equipment. High inflation, uncertainty about demand and, above all, dwindling profits have contributed to the spectacular growth of this method of financing the acquisition of equipment.

The drop in profits has played a part in two ways. Companies are unable to generate enough funds to finance investment themselves and in consequence are also unable to take up the tax allowances on capital expenditure. So they are prepared to pass these on to a leasing company. Another important factor in the switch to leasing has been the rapid advance of technological knowledge, which has resulted in equipment becoming obsolete long before the end of its operational life.

Expenditure on rented assets has increased more than fivefold since 1976. The Equipment Leasing Association, whose members' figures are regarded as a reliable barometer to overall trends, reports a rise from £421m in 1976 to £2,359m in 1980. In volume terms, after adjustment for inflation, increases of 30 per cent or more have been recorded in each of the past four years.

Leasing now accounts for nearly one third of all externally funded investment and more than 12 per cent of total investment in plant and machinery in Britain.

The importance which it has now assumed in national economic terms was acknowledged by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his Budget speech last year, when he said: "Leasing finance of this sort has become an important — in many cases an essential — source of finance for investment in manufacturing industry."

It is now possible to hire anything from an oil rig or a refining plant costing several million pounds to a typewriter costing a few hundreds. Lessees range from central and local government departments to the smallest of private companies.

The multi-million projects are known as "big ticket" transactions in the trade. One of the largest was the acquistion by Lloyds Leasing in 1976, at a cost of more than £20m, of a semi-submersible oil-drilling unit, Sedco 707, for leasing to a leading oil company. Another was the leasing by Omnium Leasing Company of a £70m catalytic cracking unit to the Lidsey Oil Refinery, Humberside, in 1977. A third such project was the leasing of two liquefied petroleum gas carriers at a cost of about £70m by a consortium of British banks. The carriers were to be built for Shell at the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland told Parliament in April 1977.

Leasing is not new. In his definitive book on the subject,* Mr Tom Clark, former chairman of the Equipment Leasing Association, says that the Sumerians rented goods before 2000 BC. The system was also used extensively by the railway and shipping industries in Britain before the Bell Telephone Company began to rent out telephones in the United States in 1877.

Modern leasing processes, however, originated in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s, when the development of computers was an important growth factor.

There is almost no office product which cannot be rented and in the motor industry various arrangements have long been commonplace. According to one estimate, about a quarter of all new cars sold in Britain are now leased. Short-term hiring is provided by companies such as Avis, Godfrey Davis and Hertz; contract hire is used for fleets of vehicles. In some contract-hire agreements, the hire company is responsible for repairs, maintenance and replacement; in others, the user is responsible.

Until June 1977, when hiring controls on cars leased to businesses were abolished, the most common arrangement for motor vehicles was contract hire. This abolition, together with confirmation by the Inland Revenue that leasing companies were entitled to a 100 per cent first year tax allowance on leased cars, caused a sharp increase in leasing. By September that year British Leyland had become the last of the big motor manufacturers to set up sales-aid leasing arrangements. The chief car hire firms also extended their business in this direction.

Some former contract-hire customers regretted the change once the time came to renew their fleets. There are reports of unwary lessees having to pay substantial sums to the banks to clear agreements signed a few years earlier which were based on over optimistic assessment of residual values. This problem would probably not have arisen under a contract lease, where the the risk is usually wholly absorbed by the leasing company.

With the growth of leasing, finance houses, banks and other City institutions came in as intermediaries and in 1971 the Equipment Leasing Association was formed. One of its main aims is "to promote honourable practice". The Association's 57 members concentrate primarily on providing large scale finance and do not claim to have specialist knowledge in any particular area. Overall, it is estimated that there are about 200 companies which provide financial leasing facilities of more than £500,000 a year. There are also companies that provide facilities as an aid to sales, the contract and plant-hire operators and others who do not provide a comprehensive financial service.

Leasing companies have found themselves owners of a surprisingly wide variety of equipment. Several, for instance, are the technical owners of dustcarts leased by London boroughs. In 1975 Cheam District Council installed 2,000 new lamp-posts which it acquired through a financial lease.

Lease brokers are another comparatively new intermediary. The first into this field, according to Mr Clark, was Saturn Management, a subsidiary of M. W. Marshall Investments which began lease broking in 1974. Mr Clark estimates that by the end of 1977 there were more than 50 lease brokers, mainly independent groups of individuals but a few of whom were subsidiaries of money brokers and other City institutions.

Financial lease contracts are normally tailor-made to suit individual requirements; however five main characteristics are among those identified by the association.

1. The equipment is chosen by the lessee or user not the lessor. The lessor does not take any responsibility for its suitability or condition. This has important implications in deciding which carries legal liability for damage caused by product defects.
2. The lessor retains ownership of the equipment. The user, unlike a hire-purchaser, has no right or opportunity at the time of leasing to acquire title to the equipment at some future date.
3. Provided the lessee pays his rent and complies with the other terms of the lease he has exclusive right to use the equipment during the whole period of the lease. Unless a variation is specifically provided for in the lease, the rate and frequency of payment should not fluctuate.
4. There is a non-cancellable section of the lease period.
5. The burden of obsolescence of the equipment falls primarily on the lessee or user.

*Leasing *by T. M. Clark, published by McGraw-Hill Book Company (UK), Maidenhead, Berkshire, 1978.*

Patricia Tisdall

Contacts:

Equipment Leasing Association, 18 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9PB. Telephone: 01-491 2783.

Leaseurope, Avenue de Tervuren 267, Boîte No 9, 1150 Brussels, Belgium.

Inventor, not mousetrap, needs bait

The notion that if a man makes a better mousetrap than his neighbour, the world will beat a path to his door has fallen gravely into disrepute over the past decade. As innumerable inventors have discovered, the world mousetrap market is no longer like that perceived by Ralph Waldo Emerson a century ago.

But the adage raises, nevertheless, one of the most controversial issues facing commerce, industry, government and universities today: how can scientific research and technology be harnessed in the cause of innovation? That perennial question was asked recently by the Prime Minister at a meeting — on science, business and technology — of the all-party Parliamentary and Scientific Committee.

She dwelt on the theme of how inventive the British are, but how poor in terms of developing and marketing their own inventions. Mrs Thatcher asked for more sympathetic consideration for the technical man from large investors.

She added: "We have a long way to go before we will be giving proper recognition to our inventors. Of course scientific excellence is admirable, but so is engineering competence and technological ability. So is founding a new successful business and creating a lot of wealth. But most to be admired are those rare, gifted people who can do all of this."

Few would quarrel with that philosophy. But what has to be done to stimulate change? Mrs Thatcher wondered whether good and effective use was being made of the engineering and scientific talent in our universities and polytechnics.

She said: "There is everything to be said for the involvement of university and polytechnic staff in business and commerce. To help this along, the Government intends to establish a new award, with cash attached in some cases, designed to give recognition to successful partnerships between universities or polytechnics and industrial firms. It is to encourage those who have yet to set up suitable means for cooperation with industry to do so."

In practice there is a large amount of activity between inventive firms and academic groups in transferring the ideas and products of research into commercial goods and services. The most adventurous is perhaps the scheme for science parks to bring industry and science together.

The organization of a science park, which ideally consists of innovative companies on an industrial estate close enough to a university for collaboration and sharing, takes various forms. One at Cambridge, started as a venture by Trinity College, is developing on a carefully planned site and fits the classic model of scientifically-minded businessmen starting new manufacturing of high technology products or services and being joined by branches of science-based companies

Other approaches to stimulating togetherness include using universities as consultants on specific problems.

In areas such as polymer engineering, which is an industry with hundreds of small firms, the Science and Engineering Research Council has formed a special unit to match academic research and technology with the needs of industry.

Yet as continuing correspondence from readers of *The Times* demonstrates, many academics and industrialists do not believe Britain is getting anywhere near the level of commercial return that is potentially available from scientific research. An example raised recently in a letter from Mr Adrian Fisher, of Minotaur Designs, at St Albans, is of the genetic engineering discovery at Cambridge, known as monoclonal antibodies, which companies in the United States are now exploiting.

A failure to get patent protection for that discovery has led to a comparison with the commercial fate of penicillin, which, though discovered in Britain, costs the country large sums in balance of payments because the Americans stole a march in commercial exploitation.

Another way of getting a competitive edge in industry is to use some of the rare breed of inventors who develop new products to order. For example, Mr Peter Frank, a former management-scientist with Rank Xerox, and Mr Mike Ockrent, a physics postgraduate, have through their company, Frank & Ockrent, provided large and small firms with a contract research and development department. They have invented, designed and developed products as diverse as laboratory equipment, marine safety equipment, domestic energy saving devices, aircraft accessories and gardening items.

At the other end of the scale, the Prime Minister is being advised by the science advisory group to the Cabinet that young British engineers and technicians are starved of the basic commercial experience needed to exploit inventions. It recommends that in the expanded role for the National Research Development Corporation, the agency which patents university discoveries and may fund private inventions, the process of commercial appraisal of ideas should be given greater attention.

Pearce Wright

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TIMES PAST THE TIMES
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TIME FOR A STERLING POLICY

The exchange rate of the pound sterling is on a roller-coaster again. It is not a sensible place for it to be. This is not quite the vertiginous seventies when the ground opened beneath one's feet whenever there was a wild remark at a labour or trade union conference, but yesterday's fall of more than 7 cents against the American dollar is the biggest fall for two and a half years. It comes against a background of increasing volatility in the foreign exchange markets and there is a strong likelihood of further pressure on sterling over the weeks and months ahead, especially if the price of North Sea oil has to be cut.

The Government's attitude to the exchange rate has bordered on the mystical: nothing can be done about the wondrous workings of the market place. It has several times denied the existence of the possibilities of intervention to reduce the inflated value of the pound sterling. That has been unfortunate but it will be as well for the moment if the laissez-faire attitude persists just a little longer. It is demoralizing to politicians, and to others, when the exchange rate declines, but sterling is over-valued by more than 30 per cent. Its inflation has been pricing British goods out of world markets and British workers out of jobs, and that dismal process would only be accelerated if interest rates were raised now in defence of the pound. The Chancellor could kiss goodbye his hopes of an export-led revival and a reversal of the calamitous fall in industrial investment. In the immediate future, therefore, the best response to the downward pressure on sterling is to do nothing.

There is, of course, an inflation cost in abstention. But there is no escaping that at some point. We have to pay for the domestic inflation which occurred in the early months of the Government's term in office when wages rose rapidly at a time output was falling. The rise of sterling concealed the inflationary forces which this created but it did not get rid of them. Time is out of joint. What is now required is a policy for the exchange rate which will relate it more closely, and in more orderly fashion, to our economic performance. There was never any justification for a 50 per cent appreciation of the pound against the dollar. Floating rates have been a nightmare for exporters. Over the past five years they have seen the pound at $1.60 and at $2.40 and they are now seeing it fall towards $1.90. Even the Weinstocks of the world cannot be expected to cope with fluctuations like that.

Both the Chancellor and the Prime Minister have shown some signs of realizing that the roller coaster is bad for trade; they must now perceive it is corrosive of confidence and singularly ill-timed in its downward swoop. It is no use expecting the Americans to ameliorate matters by lowering their interest rates, damaging though an interest-rate war is and unproven as is a high interest rate in the fight against inflation. The Europeans have lectured the Americans for too long about putting their house in order to be given much shrift in their complaints now. One can only hope the high American rates will not last for long, and in the meantime we must develop a sensible policy for currency. The first necessity to recognise is that the floating rate can be moderated in its erratic behaviour by interest rate policy, the sale of sterling bonds and other measures. The second necessity is to establish the criteria to be used in deciding on a sensible rate. The third is some public manifestation of what the Government is trying to achieve: at present no one knows if the Government would like to see the pound's effective exchange rate higher or lower than its present level.

In the short term the best way to tell them would be to measure sterling's worth against the currencies of our European partners: the Government could announce that it was trying to keep the pound's value stable against, say, the average of EEC currencies. But for the day after tomorrow we should be deliberating on how we can join the European currency snake. It is an imperfect mechanism, but it is a cooperative one and it provides the glimmerings of a more stable system for international exchanges. There is nothing to recommend the roller-coaster which has done so much harm to our economy and that of our European partners.

KEEP YOUR CONCESSIONS DRY

The statement on the Maze prison by a commission of the Irish Catholic Bishop's Conference, reported in *The Times* yesterday, is a careful and even-handed presentation of the "show a little flexibility" approach. This is the line taken, not always with the same carefulness and even-handedness, by Mr Charles Haughey and other party leaders in the Republic, Mr John Hume in the North, and many more distant observers. It is the rod with which usually well disposed critics have recently taken to beating the British back.

The proposition is that the Government should relax the regime for all prisoners in Northern Ireland in three respects. They should be permitted to wear their own clothes at all times (no great difficulty about that provided anything smacking of paramilitary uniform is excluded). There should be "some move to increase opportunities for association" while not tolerating military training or any activity which would be illegal in society at large (there is already free association much of the time for conforming prisoners; doubtless a way of increasing it could be found that stopped well short of allowing the prisoners to regulate their own lives within the perimeter). There should be a review of prison work to make it more educational and remove "work of a demeaning nature" (an educational emphasis is already present and, provided prisoners perform the simple duty of cleaning and seeing to their own cells, more could be attempted in that direction).

The British Government has been, and remains disposed to be, flexible about the details of prison regulations in Northern Ireland. On two matters it is rightly adamant. It will not have differentiation between republican criminals and other criminals, and it will not concede to republican prisoners the cachet of political status or the substance of prisoner-of-war status. The proposals of the bishops' commission do not infringe either of those precepts. A resolution of the conflict inside the Maze, if there is to be a resolution, will probably lie in the area suggested, so why not move there now?

Although the immediate announcement of some such concessions would win good opinions from bystanders and temporarily help the Government to make its case abroad, Ministers have to pay more attention to the effect of their decisions on those who are joined in the action, the communities of Northern Ireland. Unilateral concessions to the hunger strikers now would exalt the prestige and morale of the Provisional IRA, and confirm them and their many softer sympathizers in the belief that they have the means of breaking British authority in Ulster. Unionists would be daunted by an apparent display of weakness, and their paramilitary preparations would be intensified.

It would be different if there were any prospect that those concessions now would pacify the republican prisoners and still the agitation that has built up around their cause. There is no firm reason to think that that would happen. The IRA is not immolating selected of its members and reddening the coals of civil war in Ireland in order simply to win marginal improvements in the conditions of captivity. It is engaged in a deadly struggle for power against a constitutional authority in Northern Ireland that is founded on the franchise of 60 per cent of the province's electors. The challenge from within the prison and the accompanying agitprop outside are a tactical strike in that strategic context. They will not relent until, in the face of firmness and subtlety, they find this particular line of action bringing diminishing returns at rising cost. That is beginning to happen. The Government would be well advised to keep its concessions of detail dry until the process has gone further and the Provisionals are looking for a pretext for withdrawal.

SHIVERING ON THE BRINK OF WARRINGTON

Mrs Shirley Williams has decided not to stand as the Social Democratic candidate in the Warrington by-election. The reason she has given is that the timing of the by-election is uncertain and she can more usefully serve the party over the next few months by carrying out her heavy programme of meetings throughout the country. The assumption on which she has based that judgment will prove to have been mistaken if, as is reported, the Labour Party decides to have an early poll before the holiday season begins next month.

Her judgment is also open to question for a more substantial reason. Warrington may not be the ideal constituency for the Social Democrats to fight their first by-election in, but they have quite rightly decided to contest it and their chances are far from hopeless. Indeed, the opinion poll by Audience Selection, which was published in the *Sun* yesterday, suggests that they could win the seat if they have a leading personality as their candidate. Mrs Williams is given a 19 per cent lead over Labour, and Mr Roy Jenkins would be only 4 per cent behind. Any other Social Democratic candidate would, according to this poll, start with more ground to make up.

This is a very powerful argument in favour of the Social Democrats fielding one of their principal personalities. Many people will judge whether the party is a serious political force by its performance at Warrington. That will matter more for its future credibility than any straw poll. A dramatic triumph there would do more for the party than any number of political meetings that Mrs Williams could address over the next two years, never mind the next two months.

In deciding not to stand Mrs Williams has deprived the Social Democrats of their best chance of securing such a triumph. She has also given the impression of not wanting to take a chance. For a party that is seeking to break up the existing pattern of British politics that is an exceedingly dangerous impression to give. It is particularly unfortunate for the Social Democrats who are always liable to be suspected of being politicians for the drawing room rather than the hustings. There would be no better way to combat that suspicion than for a leading Social Democrat to take the risk of standing in what has hitherto been a safe Labour seat and therefore been regarded as unpromising territory for the new party.

If Mrs Williams is not prepared to take that gamble, then Mr Jenkins should. He would apparently start with a good chance even if not so good as Mrs Williams. With him as candidate there would be little risk of the Liberals queering the pitch for the Social Democrats by putting forward their own candidate. For him to stand would also do much to dispel the widespread impression of him as a politician with a fastidious distaste for the dust of the arena. So in both personal and party terms this is a chance that Mr Jenkins ought to take. If the Social Democrats are afraid to dare they cannot hope to triumph.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Colleges under closure threat

From Dr S. Ranawake and Professor W. E. Yuill

Sir, On reading your article, "Threat of closure faces five colleges" (June 2), we have difficulty in understanding how the Swinnerton-Dyer committee apparently found it so easy to dismiss the need to review the cost of central administration of the University of London.

The cost of this administration, which duplicates much of the work of college administrators, is quoted as being of the order of £3m.

It seems perverse that colleges with a long tradition of education and research by staffs of highly qualified and eminent scholars should be closed, while what one often suspects to be a top-heavy administrative machine is left intact.

Yours faithfully,
SILVIA RANAWAKE,
(Department of German)
W. E. YUILL,
(Department of German)
Bedford College (University of London),
Regent's Park, NW1.
June 3.

From Professor R. Goldsmith

Sir, It is a cornerstone of English justice that even the perpetrators of the most heinous crimes are protected from prejudicial publicity before conviction. The same courtesy has not been extended to us as an academic institution by our peers in the "discussion document" produced by Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer's committee on academic organization in London University (Report, June 2).

Upon what evidence, except their "own feelings" and "general reputation", in other words bias and the prejudices of others, have the committee concluded that the majority of the departments at this college may not be "up to university standard"? It is reasonable for us to ask: what is this "standard"? Is it a mean or an average? Then by definition a large proportion of departments in any university will be below standard.

We must give this distinguished group of our peers the benefit of greater insight. They are faced with the necessity for a 15-20 per cent financial cut; they may therefore be looking for the bottom fifth of the distribution, not an easy task. They themselves argue against all objective criteria to help them in making this judgment and are "inhibited" from making peer reviews. They would rather impugn our reputation, casting a blight upon the college.

What parent will now advise an intending student to come to Chelsea? Will school teachers not advise their best pupils to eschew a college which is "not up to university standard"? Sooner rather than later the truth will come to resemble their ill-conceived verdict.

We are no angels; we have our share of strengths and weaknesses. Let Sir Peter and his committee visit us in an open peer review. Then, if we are found wanting, let them "phase us out"; but if we are of university standard let them disseminate their praise as widely as they have their ill-founded disparagements.

Yours faithfully,
RAINER GOLDSMITH,
Chelsea College,
University of London,
Manresa Road, SW3.
June 3.

Czech dissent movement

From Mr Jan Kavan

Sir, The Czechoslovak human rights movement is in great need of money. As there is no unemployment benefit, financial support is needed by many people deprived of their means of livelihood for political reasons. Funds are also needed by families of political prisoners who receive no state help. *Moreover*, the detainees awaiting trial have to pay not only for thier defence but also for their keep in prison. However, awareness of this should not mean an assumption that all money taken to Czechoslovakia is in support of an expression of solidarity.

Palach Press Agency was quoted in *The Times* of May 27 as saying that "the large sums of western currency" found on the two young French citizens who were detained in Czechoslovakia for three weeks in May "were intended for the Committee to Defend the Unjustly Prosecuted (VONS)."

This is incorrect. Following their expulsion from Czechoslovakia on May 20, the French couple explained that the confiscated sum of 4,000 DM (£820) was their personal money saved for their holiday and they are now taking legal steps to recover it from the Czechoslovak customs. The police grossly misinterpreted the role of the money by asserting that it was to finance "subversive activities" of the human rights activists detained in Prague three weeks ago.

This unsubstantiated claim is used as a pretext to charge those who refuse to conform with "subversion of the republic" under article 98, which carries a sentence from three to 10 years. The erroneous quotation has arisen out of a misunderstanding between the author of the article on the forthcoming Prague trial and a part-time Palach Press employee.

Yours faithfully,
JAN KAVAN, Director,
Palach Press Ltd.,
19 Earlham House,
35 Mercer Street, WC2.
June 1.

War in Lebanon

From Mrs Jane Geallad

Sir, Robert Fisk's report on the Israeli attack on Damour (May 29) wastes unnecessary sympathy on the Palestinian terrorists holding the town. Damour was a quiet Christian town until the civil war in Lebanon, when the Palestinians attacked the population, killing many and forcing the rest to flee for their lives.

Mr Fisk should think of these people, now living as refugees in other parts of Lebanon, who can never return to their home town.

Yours faithfully,
JANE GEALLAD,
212 Boulevard Bineau,
92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine,
France.
May 30.

Centre parties in an adult relationship

From Mr Tom Ellis, MP for Wrexham (Social Democrat)

Sir, You report today (June 3) that the leaders of the Social Democratic Party and of the Liberal Party have reached an agreement whereby the latter party will stand down in favour of the SDP at the Warrington by-election but that it is to have "first refusal" at any (*sic*) forthcoming by-election. It seems as if Buggins's turn is being introduced into a novel setting.

I do not yet know whether the report is correct, but if it is so it adds to my other anxieties which have been steadily accumulating since the launch of the SDP.

A presumption of the British two-party political system which unfortunately is being carried over into the SDP is that one either loves or one hates. There seems to be an aversion to having an adult relationship pitched somewhere between the two extremes. In fact it was partly in revolt against this black-and-white party view of politics — "my party right or wrong" — that I left the Labour Party and helped found the SDP. Sadly, however, it is this same old obsessive preoccupation with shallow party advantage, together with a certain youthful brashness, which seems to result in occasional ineptitudes in the political direction of the new party.

As a case in point, the prickly approach to negotiations with the Liberal Party, which manifestly is forcing the Liberal leadership into defensive responses against its will, hardly reflects the self-assurance one would have anticipated of the SDP and its leaders, given the facts of British political life. A statement about the Warrington by-election by a local Liberal in the North-west of England, for example, did not merit the resulting abrasive reply from the SDP nationally which in turn forced the Buggins's turn principle on the Liberal leadership.

Nor does a determination to reject the practices of the Labour Party — admirable if this had meant the rejection of the old party prejudices — become anything other than silly if, in fact, it results in no more than administrative decisions about not having an annual conference because Labour has one, or not basing local parties on the constituencies because Labour does so, or disparaging local party members who were formerly active workers in the old parties.

I sincerely hope that henceforth in the SDP we shall display greater self-assurance so as to avoid any suspicion of our being party bigots. It is this as much as anything which will appeal to the British electorate.

Yours sincerely,
TOM ELLIS,
House of Commons.
June 3.

From Mr Sam Silkin, QC, MP for Southwark and Dulwich (Labour)

Sir, Am I alone in seeing a parallel between the conduct of Mrs Shirley Williams in declining to contest the Warrington by-election and that of Mr Tony Benn in declining to stand for the leadership of the Labour Party?

In each case the logic of the positions taken up by them would seen to lead to acceptance of the challenge. In each case to do so would seem to be the courageous and honourable course. In each case it appears that discretion has proved the better part of valour.

Are there conclusions to be drawn as to the suitability of either to lead the nation?

Yours faithfully,
SAM C. SILKIN,
House of Commons.

Europe's voice

From Mr Alfred L. Latham-Koenig

Sir, Ronald Butt's article (May 14) rightly stresses the importance of a European voice in the present critical world situation and welcomes the great progress in political cooperation within the Community which was achieved in the last few years. But this cooperation needs a measure of agreement on a higher European interest which transcends purely national interests and makes compromises possible.

In this respect the regrettably harsh, almost jingoistic, tone adopted by Britain in demanding a reduction of her contribution to the EEC budget — however sound her case may have been — has created both a bad impression and an unfortunate precedent which could well be followed by other member states and weaken further the cohesion of the Community at a particularly inopportune time.

There is one field in particular, the North-South dialogue, where a common initiative by Europe is urgently needed. The negative attitude of the Reagan Administration towards practically all the recommendations of the Brandt report, its delay in replenishing the concessionary funds of the International Development Association, have angered the group of 77 and compromised the success of the North-South summit in Mexico next autumn.

France, under her previous government, had taken a lead in trying to soften the United States Administration's attitude and with Claude Cheysson, the new foreign minister, this policy is likely to be pursued even more vigorously.

It is to be hoped that Britain, which takes over the presidency of the Council of Ministers in July, will ensure that the EEC, as a unit, makes a positive contribution to the Mexico summit, thereby ensuring at least a modicum of success. A failure, followed by mutual recriminations, would be dangerous in the present world economic climate.

Yours faithfully,
A. L. KOENIG,
11 Bigwood Road,
Hampstead Garden Suburb,
Hampstead, NW11.
May 28.

M Cheysson's record

From the South African Ambassador to Greece

Sir, If, as your account in *The Times* of May 23 would have us believe, Claude Cheysson was once "in charge of the development of the Sahara", the present state of that part of the world would hardly be the best augury for his success as France's new Foreign Minister. In fact, however, that unfortunate over-abbreviation does no justice to the very effective hard work he was actually doing as Secretary-General of the Committee for Technical Cooperation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA) for those years. Meetings at working-party level used to take place every week or two in London under his chairmanship in the late fifties, and as South Africa's representative at that time, I can attest to his zeal.

It is perhaps of interest that Claude Cheysson is the third member of that small London group — *only* eight countries were represented — to have become Foreign Minister. The others were Alex Quaison-Sackey, of Ghana, and Franco Nogueira, of Portugal.

Yours truly,
J. H. SELFE,
South African Embassy,
69 Vassilissis Sofias,
Athens 140.
May 28.

Nature of schizophrenia

From the President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and others

Sir, Quite apart from the question of *differential diagnosis*, about which we make no comment here, the trial of Mr Peter Sutcliffe may have left on the public mind the impression that people with schizophrenia are always a potential menace to others. This is not true. Schizophrenia is a fairly common condition which can sometimes be disabling or even crippling in its effects upon the sufferer, but it is very rarely associated with repeated acts of violence.

In the United Kingdom, at any given time, some 180,000 people are affected by it and about 1 per cent of the population develop it at some time in their adult lives. Most of them spend far more time living in the community than in hospital. All but a tiny fraction have no greater liability to violence than other citizens, nor do they commit other crimes.

We would not wish to minimize the suffering caused by schizophrenia to the person affected and to the family, nor to deny that tragedy sometimes occurs. But there have been major advances during the past 25 years in our understanding of the disease, in our knowledge of treatment and in our ability to help those who become chronically disabled.

It would be an even greater tragedy if the care given by the mental health services was undermined by hardening further attitudes that might lead to greater restrictiveness and less community support. Organizations such as the National Schizophrenia Fellowship and MIND do much to promote public understanding, sympathy and help for many thousands of sufferers. Their efforts should not be set back because of the natural reaction of horror at this appalling series of acts.

Yours faithfully,
DESMOND POND,
KEN RAWNSLEY,
W. H. TRETHOWAN,
HENRY WALTON,
J. K. WING,
Medical Research Council
Social Psychiatry Unit,
Institute of Psychiatry,
De Crespigny Park, SE5.
May 29.

Third World aid

From Mr Evan Luard

Sir, The large number of people attending the recent lobby of Parliament is an indication of the widespread concern that exists about the policy of our Government towards the Third World.

Over the next four months three important summit meetings are to take place at which these matters are to be discussed: the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting in Australia; the meeting of industrialized nations in Canada; and the North-South summit in Mexico. Though none will be able to reach final decisions (if only because all will be restricted in membership) what they will do — especially the Mexico summit — is to lay down guidelines for the detailed negotiations which will take place subsequently in the appropriate forums.

There are a number of particular proposals to be discussed which it might be hoped that our Government (even taking account of its known political and economic viewpoint) will be willing to support.

For example, as a major food importer Britain has a strong national interest in measures to expand food production all over the world, above all in developing countries (where the costs of production are often cheapest) to avoid major shortages and rapidly rising prices: one would hope therefore that the Government will support major programmes designed to help poor countries in that area.

Secondly, as a government committed to an open trading system (as it announced in its memorandum on *the Brandt report* last July) it should be willing to support a public commitment to avoid new measures of protectionism against imports from poor countries (and to put this into practice in the forthcoming negotiations on the renewal of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement):

Thirdly, as a major banking nation which would have much to lose if any poor countries, because of their severe balance of payments difficulties, were forced to repudiate their debts, already enormous, we have an interest in ensuring that the International Monetary Fund further liberalizes its policies in granting credits to poor countries and that it should give a larger proportion of quotas and special drawing rights to them in future allocations.

Fourthly, as a country with long-standing associations with the very poorest countries of all, the "least developed" (about half of which are members of the Commonwealth), we should give the strongest support, both at the summit and at the conference specifically devoted to their problems in Paris in August, to proposals for special measures to help them by the provision of increased aid and better trading opportunities.

Yours faithfully,
EVAN LUARD,
Oxfam,
274 Banbury Road,
Oxford.
June 1

Gunshots at the funerals

From Mr P. St. John Langan

Sir, Professor O'Leary (June 2) has missed the vital distinction. So far as I know, it is not being suggested that there should be a simple denial of Christian burial rites to any baptised person. What is in issue, and what causes very great offence to many people (Roman Catholic, Anglican and Protestant alike), is the provision of a funeral service and burial for someone who has lived by the gun and the bomb where he is to be publicly "honoured" with flags, martial music, volleys and the like.

By necessary implication, all this is done in tribute to the manner in which the person concerned has lived and died. The explanation which is put forward, that these trappings stop at the church door, is unconvincing: after all, the officiating priest accompanies the coffin to the grave.

On a practical level, a simple choice could be offered to the relatives: you can have a Christian funeral or a paramilitary funeral, but not both.

On a spiritual level, it is only the offering of such a choice which can in these difficult circumstances be consistent with the Gospel of peace. Reconciliation and comfort for the bereaved should be available, but not at the price of involving those who are ordained for the proclamation of that Gospel in a ceremony which, whatever their own views, becomes a celebration of violence.

Yours faithfully,
P. ST. J. LANGAN,
2, New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
June 2.

Defence strategy

From Miss A. M. Hjörne

Sir, I welcome David Watt's conclusion (May 29) that Nato urgently needs a functional review. It is a pity that he did not go on to argue that for reasons of history, geography, trade and our national interest, we should "specialize" in the maritime defence of the eastern Atlantic and the Channel. This is the role in which Britain, amongst European nations, is uniquely qualified to lead and already plays a major part. In contrast, our continental commitment to defending a few dozen kilometres of the German border is not impressive.

David Watt spoils his argument by some rather supercilious comments about the Navy — perhaps in his infancy he was bitten by a sub-lieutenant. More seriously, in his discussion of length of conflict he misses one vital point: reinforcement is surely to be started as early as possible during tension as a signal of resolve and thereby as a deterrent.

If deterrence fails, reinforcement is needed to keep Nato's options open; one option, given reinforcement, is to continue to fight with conventional weapons. Without reinforcement, this option is not available after a few days. It is certainly misleading to suggest that the anti-submarine war will only be joined when it is "relevant to reinforce the Army".

Yours faithfully,
MARIKA HJORNE,
Willow Mead,
Pankridge Street,
Crondall,
Farnham,
Surrey.
May 31.

Words and figures

From Mr F. T. Bennell

Sir, While not disagreeing with the general suggestion of Philip Howard's article (May 25) that technical words are liable to be misused by journalists (indeed the article itself inadvertently reinforces this view) I do not agree that the BBC reporter was wrong to say something was increasing "exponentially". It is a precise statement to make of anything where the rate of increase is proportional to its size at that moment and I presume that what was meant was that the bigger it gets the faster it grows, which would be a reasonable use of the word.

Neither do I see anything wrong with the expression "lowest common denominator". A denominator in mathematics is written as a number below the line but it represents the parts of which a fraction is composed.

Yours faithfully,
F. T. BENNELL,
Consultant Engineer,
68b Crockford Park Road,
Addlestone,
Weybridge,
Surrey.
May 25.

Foxing the hunt

From Miss Victoria Spenser Wilkinson

Sir, Mr G. V. Harries (June 2) has unfortunately resurrected a story which was attributed to my father by Sir Victor Mallet in a footnote in his *Life with Queen Victoria*, published in 1968.

In December 1968 I wrote to Sir Victor Mallet to point out that his facts were incorrect and that Sir George Clark (All Souls College), who kindly did some research for me, found that the invention of the bicycle tactic was by John Cook Wilson. On hearing from me Sir Victor Mallet immediately apologised, and at my suggestion wrote a letter explaining his mistake, which was published by *The Times Literary Supplement* (January 23, 1969).

I hope this information will put to rest the defamatory idea that my father had invented this absurd "tactic" referred to by Mr Harries, obviously in ignorance of the facts.

Yours faithfully,
VICTORIA SPENSER WILKINSON,
142 Hatherley Court,
Hatherley Grove, W2.
June 2.

All for the best

From Mrs Colin Strickland

Sir, In reply to the Chaplain of Sussex University, (June 3), when my father remarried at Crundale church, near Canterbury, on December 11, 1975, not only was my sister his best man, but my step-mother's daughter gave her away.

Yours sincerely,
ROSEMARY STRICKLAND,
Swarling Manor,
Petham, Canterbury.
June 3.

Church's weakness

From the Reverend Harry Ogden

Sir, In yesterday's *Times* (May 29) Canon Wilkinson, of Solihull, made the strange and illogical assertion that clergy who look after their churches thereby neglect to talk about God to their people. Granted that my 20 years' parochial experience has not been in attractive suburban or country parishes, but my experience is the opposite of his in this matter. My experience from observation of other parishes as well as my own is that the care and enhancement of "Victorian Gothic edifices" goes hand in hand with a renewal of the spiritual life and the evangelistic outreach in inner-city parishes, decayed or otherwise.

Take one example in Salford: There is a church, a "Victorian Gothic edifice" if ever there was one, in what was *Love on the Dole* land. Throughout my childhood it looked derelict and unwanted among the decaying back streets. Then the area was redeveloped as an estate of high-rise flats, with the church still looking derelict and unwanted.

Diocesan "experts" wanted to demolish it and erect another concrete cube, but the new rector and the then small congregation insisted on keeping their "Victorian Gothic edifice" and they set about restoring, reordering and beautifying it under the sensitive guidance of Mr Stephen Dykes Bower. They were "looking after buildings" and spent a lot of money doing so — money raised by very hard work by the rector and his people. While they were doing this, however, they neither neglected looking after people nor talking to them about God — in fact the restoration of the old and familiar church, a building which ordinary unsophisticated people could immediately recognize and relate to as the local house of God and gate of Heaven, was perhaps the main instrument in turning a small aged congregation into the largest and most vigorous and most evangelistically effective congregation in the whole of Salford.

If we are to think in "neo-Franciscan terms" about simplifying and enlarging the Church's message of hope and joy and high purpose in what Canon Wilkinson calls "This embattled post-industrial age" then he and others who think like him will have to reassess their desire to destroy churches, "Victorian Gothic edifices" or otherwise. For St Francis of Assisi humbly began his very effective spiritual renewal and evangelistic outreach which revitalized the medieval Church by restoring an old tumbledown church.

What better example could we follow, in inner-city areas and elsewhere? For the restoration, reordering and beautifying of old recognizable church buildings is an outward and visible sign which ordinary unsophisticated people immediately recognize — that neither God nor his Church are dead, and that he is quite capable of making new that which had grown old, and of lifting up that which had fallen down.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY OGDEN,
Christ Church Rectory,
Monton Street,
Moss Side,
Manchester.
May 30.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

June 4: His Excellency Mr Barak Sope was received in audience by The Queen and presented his Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of Vanuatu in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the High Commission, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Joseph Andrá Laloyer (Attaché).

Sir Edward Youde (Deputy to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

General Sir John Stanier had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Aide-de-Camp General to Her Majesty.

General Sir Michael Gow had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Aide-de-Camp General to Her Majesty.

Mr Leslie Pengelly had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his retirement as Court Postmaster when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order (Fifth Class).

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this evening took the Salute at a Ceremony of Beating Retreat by the Massed Bands of the Household Division on Horse Guards Parade in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund and Household Division Charities.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received upon arrival by the Major-General Commanding, Household Division (Major-General Desmond Langley).

The Marchioness of Abergavenny and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Royal Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, visited the Royal Bath and West Show at Shepton Mallet today and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Somerset (Lieutenant-Colonel Walter Luttrell).

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr Richard Davies, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales, Chairman, the York Archeological Trust, this morning at Buckingham Palace received Mr P. V. Addyman and Mr Charles Chetwood.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Hamilton of Dalzell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Gatwick Airport, London this afternoon upon the arrival of the Governor-General of Australia and Lady Cowen and welcomed Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE

June 4: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this morning at the Founder's Day Parade at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

The Lady Jean Rankin, Sir Martin Gilliat and Captain Ashe Windham were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

June 4: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present today at a luncheon given at the Savoy Hotel by the Friends of Covent Garden to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Royal Ballet, of which Her Royal Highness is President.

The Hon Mrs Whitehead was in attendance.

Princess Anne will be installed as Chancellor of London University on October 13. She takes over the post from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, who was Chancellor for 25 years before retiring.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will witness the Queen's birthday parade from Horse Guards on June 13.

The Duke of Gloucester, Honorary Colonel, Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers, will visit the regiment in training at Wyke Regis, Dorset, on June 16.

Princess Alexandra will visit Kendal Brewery Arts Centre, Cumbria, on July 1.



Photograph by Patrick Lichfield

Wedding group: Members of the Royal Family with the wedding group after the marriage at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday between the Hon Nicholas Soames and Miss Catherine Weatherall. Back row, from left: Isabelle Weatherall (the bride's sister), the bridegroom, the bride, the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer. Middle row: Lady Jasmin Cavendish (bridesmaid), Mrs Weatherall (bride's mother), Captain Tony Weatherall (bride's father), Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret, Lord Soames (groom's father), Lady Soames (groom's mother), Martha Pilkington (bridesmaid). Front row: Bridesmaids and pages: Clementine Hambro, Flora Davidson, Willa Beckett, Johnny Jenks, Jake Bevan, Poppy Keswick, Emma Parker-Bowles, Tom Parker-Bowles, Anastasia Bond-Gumming and Poppy Teacher.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. N. Ridley and Miss M. A. Passmore

The forthcoming marriage is announced between Adam Nicholas, only son of the Hon Mrs Cressida Ridley and the late Jasper Ridley, and Margaret Anne (Biddy), youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs F. L. Passmore, of Virginia Water, Surrey.

Mr I. A. du Pré and Mlle S. de Brabandère

The engagement is announced between Ian Alastair, second son of Mr and Mrs Gareth du Pré, of Beacon Hill, St Clement, Jersey, and Sabine, youngest daughter of the late Guy de Brabandère and of Mme de Brabandère of Brussels.

Mr E. L. R. Forwood and Miss S. A. Joicey

The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs William Forwood, of Woodstock, Newtownmountkennedy, co Wicklow, Republic of Ireland, and Sabina, daughter of Major and Mrs John Joicey, of Blenkinsopp Hall, Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

Mr C. W. A. Gross and Mrs S. B. Fisher

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs K. A. C. Gross, of Friendly Lodge, Fordwich, Canterbury, Kent, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip J. Berg, of Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Mr W. J. S. Hodgson and Mlle M. Y. Botero-Medina de Medinacoeli

The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place in Paris on Saturday, July 25, between William, youngest son of Mr and Mrs A. G. S. Hodgson, of Geerings, Warnham, Sussex, and Monica Ysabel, daughter of Mme Bruno René Tripier, of 5 Avenue Alphand, Paris 75116, France and Señor Gilberto Botero-Medina.

Mr J. L. Nixon and Miss J. M. Watson

The engagement is announced between John Leigh, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Howard M. Nixon, of Westminster, and Janet Milford, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas Watson, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr S. Manuel and Miss S. Morris

The engagement is announced between Stephen Alan, son of Mr and Mrs Lionel Manuel, of Kensington, London, and Susan, daughter of Mr Neil Morris and the late Mrs Lisa Morris, of Whitecraigs, Glasgow.

Professor D. Keith-Lucas and Mrs J. Everard

The engagement is announced and the marriage will shortly take place quietly between David Keith-Lucas, husband of the late Dorothy de Bauduy, and Phyllis Marion, widow of John Hugh Everard.

Mr A. J. W. Mann and Miss G. McNulty

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs D. B. Mann, of Hampton Wick, Kingston-upon-Thames and Gail, elder daughter of Mr E. B. McNulty, of Timperley, Cheshire and Mrs E. B. McNulty, of Lewes, Sussex.

Marriages

The Hon Nicholas Soames and Miss C. N. Weatherall

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Prince of Wales, who was best man, Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, and Lady Diana Spencer were present at the marriage which took place at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday, between the Hon Nicholas Soames, eldest son of Lord and Lady Soames, and Miss Catherine Weatherall, eldest daughter of Captain and Mrs Tony Weatherall. The Rev Charles Cowley officiated, assisted by the Rev Philip Hayllar. Canon John Baker and Canon James Mansell were robed and in the sanctuary.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Tom Parker Bowles, Jake Bevan, Johnny Jenks, Emma Parker Bowles, Poppy Keswick, Anastasia Bond Gumming, Flora Davidson, Willa Beckett, Lady Jasmin Cavendish, Poppy Teacher, Clementine Hambro and Martha Pilkington.

A reception was held at the Hyde Park Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R. M. Brooks and Miss E. R. Durnford

The marriage took place on Saturday, May 30, in Montreal, Canada, between Mr Robert Marshall Brooks, son of Mr and Mrs William Brooks, and Miss Evelyn Rachael Durnford, daughter of Professor and Mrs John Durnford.

SIR ROBERT STEPS DOWN AT 102

Sir Robert Mayer, who is 102 today, and Lord Drogheda are relinquishing their joint chairmanship of Youth and Music, although they remain as directors. They have been appointed vice-presidents of the organization that was founded by Sir Robert.

Mr Albert Frost an executive director of Marks and Spencer, has been appointed chairman. The Youth and Music Trust. has been renamed the Robert Mayer Trust for Youth and Music.

Royal College of Physicians

Among new fellows admitted by the President of the Royal College of Physicians of London, Sir Douglas Black, yesterday were Dr D S Fredrickson, Dr A K Grant, Dr M I Grossman, Dr J C Laidlaw, Dr H Mahler and Dr S M Mellinkoff under special by-law.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Benson was christened Honor May by the Rev Robert Greaves in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, on June 2. The godparents are the Earl of Halifax, Mr Richard Hambro, Mr Jeremy Hindley, Mr Robert Sangster, Mr Archie Stirling, the Begum Aga Khan, Lady Charles Spencer-Churchill, Mrs Simon Courtauld and Mrs Andrew Parker Bowles.

£10,000 bond winners

The Premium Savings Bond winners of £10,000 in the June draw, announced yesterday, are: 4EK 724675 (winner lives in Northamptonshire), 9FF 796407 (South Yorkshire), 1HF 420405 (Clwyd), 5SW 400335 (Dumfries), and 10WK 803505 (Lancashire).

Legal appointment

Mr I. C. R. McCullough, QC, has been appointed a High Court judge, in succession to Sir Alan Mocatta who has retired. He will be assigned to the Queen's Bench

Luncheons

HM Government

The Lord Privy Seal was host at a luncheon held at Admiralty House yesterday in honour of Mr Hugo Gobbi, United Nations Special Negotiator.

HM Government

The Hon Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of the Paraguayan Foreign Minister, Dr Alberto Nogues. The Ambassador of Paraguay was among those present.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Sir Graham Page, MP, accompanied by Lady Page, was host at a luncheon given at the House of Commons yesterday by the United Kingdom branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, in honour of Mr Clive Griffiths, President of the Legislative Council of Western Australia, and Mrs Griffiths. Lord Aberdare, the Hon Roland Moyle, MP, Mr Donald Limon and Mr James Batten were among those present.

Franco-British Society

Mme Simone Veil, President of the European Parliament, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon given by the Marquess of Lansdowne, chairman, and the council of the Franco-British Society yesterday at Dartmouth House. The French Ambassador and Mme Emmanuel de Margerie were among those present.

Butchers' Company

Mr David Cornell, Master of the Butchers' Company, presided at a court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall yesterday. Mr R. W. H. Covell and Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, also spoke.

Receptions

Independent Educational Association

The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs attended a reception given by the Independent Educational Association in aid of the building appeal fund for St James and St Vedast independent schools, Queen's Gate, London, at the Mansion House yesterday evening. Sir David and Lady Barran received the guests who included: Julia Lady Seton, Sir Basil Engholm, Mr Justice Jupp, Sir Robert Mayer, Judge Miskin, QC, and Mr Campbell Nelson, patrons of the schools.

Caledonian Club

The annual reception of the dinner club of the Royal Thames Yacht Club and the Caledonian Club took place at the Caledonian Club last night.

Dinners

Cinque Ports

The Deputy Constable of Dover Castle and Mrs Atherton entertained the Barons of the Cinque Ports and their ladies, at dinner at Dover Castle yesterday. The other guests included: The High Sheriff of Kent and Major-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, the Bishop of Dover and Mrs Third, and the Admiralty Court Judge and Mrs Darling.

Royal Society of Medicine

Air Vice-Marshal P. J. O'Connor, President of the United Services Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, accompanied by Mrs O'Connor, presided at the annual dinner of the section held at 1 Wimpole Street yesterday.

Service luncheon

The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

The annual luncheon for officers and their ladies of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) was held at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly, yesterday. Major-General R. F. Richardson, Colonel of the regiment, presided.

Service dinner

The King's Royal Rifle Corps

General Sir Edwin Bramall, Colonel Commandant, The Royal Green Jackets, presided at the annual dinner of the Celer et Audax Club, held at Claridge's hotel last night.

Birthdays today

Miss Margaret Drabble, the writer, who is 42 today.

Sir Kenneth Anderson, 75; Sir Stephen Chapman, 74; Professor C M Fletcher, 70; Sir Gerald Glover, 73; Mr David Hare, 34; Professor Christopher Hawkes, 76; Sir Jack Jacob, QC, 73; Mr Ivan Mason, 75; Sir Robert Mayer, CH, 102; Professor R M Ogilvie, 49; Professor Sir Rudolf Peierls, 74; Sir John Pile, 63; Miss Margaret Rawlings, 75; Sir Arthur Vick, 70.

Revive home life skills, Strong says

By our Arts Reporter

A plea for the retention and revival of the lost and dying skills of home life was made yesterday by Dr Roy Strong, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Speaking at the annual meeting in London of the National Federation of Women's Institutes, Dr Strong said: "All the myriad domestic arts that once embellished a home have so often been destroyed by mass production, the tenets of the modernist movement in the arts or just plain inertia before a television set".

It was up to the individual to revive and keep alive the domestic crafts heritage, he said.

Dr Strong also appealed for records to be kept for posterity of the ordinary domestic scene. Photographs were lavished on children and on holidays but there was never a record of a house, a flat, a garden or a place of work.

"You can always discover what a banquet looked like but the variety of the appearance of ordinary meals and table-laying goes totally unobserved and unrecorded."

Dr Strong was also concerned at the loss of the country's natural heritage. With EEC rulings on fruit and vegetables, the devastation of elm disease and the standardization imposed on garden centres and nurseries, variety would in future depend on the ability of the community to maintain it.

It centred on the will of people to plant for posterity and not for tomorrow—"to resist the lure of *leylandi* and the flowering *sorbus* that is turning this country into a cross between Japan and Norway, and to plant instead native oak or ash, beech or chestnut."

Costume design by Bakst is sold for £7,000

By Huon Mallalieu

The Theatre Museum paid £7,000 at Sotheby's yesterday for a costume design by Leon Bakst in a sale of ballet designs from the collection of Mr and Mrs John Carr Doughty. It was a watercolour study of a young Raja for Fokine's ballet *Le Dieu Bleu*, which was first presented in Paris in 1912 (estimate £7,000 to £7,500).

Ward-Jackson, a London dealer normally known for his interest in Old Master drawings, paid £6,000 for "The Fan Dancer—Rayoniste portrait of Catherine Devilliers", in watercolour and gouache, by Mikhail Larionov (estimate £6,000 to £8,000).

The sale produced £146,964, with just under 9 per cent bought in, and there was marked interest in English designs of the 1930s and 1940s.

Sotheby's also offered routine English and foreign silver and plate, making a total of £71,647, with 21 per cent bought in.

In a sale of nineteenth-century ivories, sculpture and works of art at Christie's, a French silvered, gilded and coloured copper and bronze vase, known as Le Vase des Arts, which was expected to fetch a high price, failed to sell, being bought in at £16,000. That largely accounted for the 34 per cent which was bought in out of a total of £101,502.

At Christie's South Kensington an anonymous dealer paid £5,000 for a very superior musical box, or rather musical wardrobe, a chamber orchestrion by Imhof and Mukle (estimate £4,000 to £5,000). A grandiose upright polyphon, with 19 discs, sold for £3,000 (estimate £2,500 to £3,000). The sale of music machines made £38,500, with 8 per cent bought in.

At Sotheby's Belgravia a sale of English ceramics produced £31,721, with just over 6 per cent bought in. Barnes, the London dealer, paid £1,000 for a pair of Wedgwood fairyland lustre "Florentine vases" decorated with a brightly coloured design of goblins.

At Phillips a jacket of primrose silk with Chinese embroidery, which had belonged to the Austrian soprano Elisabeth Schumann, who died in 1952, sold for £55 (estimate £30 to £40). It appeared in a sale of textiles and costumes which made a total of £13,716, with 3 per cent failing to find buyers.

St Francis in wood for £5,500

Saint *Francis of Assisi* gave away all that he had, but a mere £5,500 would buy a fine sixteenth century Franco-Flemish wooden statue of him at the seventh annual Fine Art and Antiques Fair, which opened at Olympia yesterday. It is one of about 500,000 antique items, ranging in price from £5 to more than £50,000, in what is becoming Britain's leading fair.

The fair is open from 11 am to 8 pm every day until June 13, with the exception of Sunday, June 7. The admission price of £2.50 includes catalogues and the opportunity to see the superb collection of pre-Columbian gold artefacts lent by the Museo del Oro in Lima, Peru.

Science report

Diabetes: Birth defects cut

By Our Medical Correspondent

Diabetic women are less likely than those in normal health to have an uncomplicated pregnancy. Their babies are larger, they are more often stillborn, and they have more congenital defects. Between 6 per cent and 9 per cent of infants born to diabetic mothers have some serious physical defect—three to four times the rate in non-diabetic mothers. A research study recently completed at the Joslin Diabetes Center, Boston, United States, suggests, however, that this high rate of birth defects could be cut by better "control" of the diabetes.

Once pregnant, most diabetic women cooperate closely with their doctors in an attempt to keep fluctuations in their blood sugar concentrations to a minimum. Important as this good control of the diabetes may be, it is unlikely to affect the chances of birth defects. Serious malformations are usually due to faulty development in the first eight weeks of pregnancy, before women usually see their doctors for advice.

For many years doctors have believed that women whose diabetes had been poorly controlled in those crucial eight weeks were more likely to have babies with congenital defects but there was no way to confirm or refute this suspicion. Recent research has now shown that diabetics with high blood sugar concentrations, poorly controlled diabetes, have more than average amounts of a sugar-bound pigment, glycosylated haemoglobin, in the bloodstream. Measurement of this pigment gives a reliable estimate of the quality of an individual's diabetic control over the previous four to eight weeks.

So the diabetic specialists at the Joslin Medical Center looked at the glycosylated haemoglobin values in 116 women with severe diabetes who had given birth between 1977 and 1980. Fifteen had had babies with serious birth defects: eight had congenital heart disease, four had brain malformation, and one case each of defects of the lungs, abdomen, and ears. Six of the infants died from their birth defects. Thirteen of these 15 women had above average concentrations of glycosylated haemoglobin; only two were in the low range.

The clear implication is that if diabetes is poorly controlled in the very first weeks of pregnancy the risk of a congenital defect is substantially increased. Conversely, careful attention to diet and insulin dosage may reduce these risks to near normal levels. Furthermore, recent research in Britain has suggested that non-diabetic women can reduce their chances of having a malformed baby by taking extra vitamins in the weeks immediately before and just after conception.

For most of this century parents have had to accept that around one in every 50 babies was born with some malformation. At last there is a prospect of that risk being reduced by the combination of the sociological change that has enabled most women to choose the timing of their pregnancies by a deliberate act of stopping contraception and this new, rapidly evolving concept of preconceptual medicine, giving treatment to get the woman's internal chemistry into the best condition for the developing embryo.

New England Journal of Medicine (May 28, 1981, p 1331).

Latest wills

Sir James Martin, of Denham, Buckinghamshire, managing director of the Martin Baker Aircraft Co, who invented the aircraft ejector seat in 1947, left estate valued at £763,973 net.

Mr Edward Frederick Croft-Murray of Richmond upon Thames, keeper of the Department of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum, 1954-72, left £452,535 net.

Alice Marjorie Wyse, of Camden, London, Jonquil Antony, the creator of Mrs Dale's Diary, left £11,331 net. After personal bequests she left the residue to the Anglo-Italian Society for the Protection of Animals.

University news

Oxford

Elections and awards

CHRIST CHURCH: To lectureship in music: D R Puffett, MA, DPhil. St Hilda's College: To senior scholarships: A J Murphy, Trinity College, Dublin, and J D Broackes, University College: Roger Prentice Exhibition: M F Hallam, scholar: J L Field Exhibition: M W J Ruffell, commoner: John V Lovitt Prize: S J Wise, scholar.

KEBLE COLLEGE: BP education fellowships: M J Phipps, MA (Oxon), City of Portsmouth Boys School (for Hilary term, 1982) and P S Bruce, BSc (Birm), Hornsey School and Institute for Further Education (for Trinity term, 1982): Keble education fellowship: R Abraham, MA (Cantab), Battersea County School (for Michaelmas term, 1982).

WORCESTER COLLEGE: To honorary fellowships: The Right Rev A A K Graham, MA, Bishop-elect of Newcastle, Fellow, 1960-70, and A Horsley, MA, exhibitioner, 1921-24: Wolfson Fellowship in Chemistry: Dr E W Gill: Lloyd's Fellowship in Economics: Dr K H Bega.

SOMERVILLE COLLEGE: To Enid Starkie Travelling Research Fellowship: Dr A E Armstrong, MA, DPhil: Catherine and Leonard Woolley Fellowship: Julie Hamilton, MA, BPhil: Alan Hodge Memorial Travelling Fellowship: Penelope J Chapman and Kathleen A McLauchlan.

Diary quiz answers

1: Both were Derby day winners. The Aga Khan's Shergar won the big race. That morning, Michael Vicary, of Southampton, won £750,000 on the pools.

2: Mr Menachem Begin, Israel's Prime Minister, for one. Under Israeli election rules, television pictures of Begin's summit with President Sadat of Egypt can show only the foreigner. Mr Begin's hand, shaking Mr Sadat's, was all that was seen.

3: Lady Diana Spencer, in a special coin to be issued in Australia.

4: First, it was feared that pirates would salvage five tonnes of gold bullion, worth £45m, from the wreck of the cruiser Edinburgh, which went down in the Barents Sea 39 years ago. Then the BBC decided to postpone its broadcast of Harold Robbins's *The Pirate* next week, in view of King Khaled's state visit.

OBITUARY

MR J. B. WARD-PERKINS

Major contributions to archaeological research

Mr J. B. Ward-Perkins, CMG, CBE, FBA, Director of the British School at Rome from 1946 to 1974, died on May 28 at the age of 69.

John Bryan Ward-Perkins was born on February 3, 1912. His childhood was spent largely with his mother's parents in Bromley until his father's retirement from the ICS (Burma) and the return to England of his parents.

The stimulus that set him to archaeology came when, as a scholar at Winchester, he worked with other boys under the headmaster Monty Randall on the excavation of Buckley Priory; and by the time he had gained his First in Greats at New College in 1934 he had determined on an archaeological career.

Until 1936 he was a Craven Fellow and Senior Demy at *Magdalen*. Then he was largely concerned with the Pre-Roman Iron Age in Britain. He worked as the collaborator with Thalassa Hencken on the excavation at Bredon Hill (Glos) and in France he studied the pottery from the oppidum stormed by Caesar at Gergovia near Clermont-Ferrand, excavated by Olwen Brogan and Emil Desforges. But already wider horizons were being opened.

In Italy he met Ellis Waterhouse at the British School and their travels together resulted in his notable paper on the sculpture of Visigothic France, a complement to Waterhouse's own work on that of Spain.

In 1936 he was appointed assistant in the London Museum at Lancaster House, then under the Keepership of Mortimer Wheeler. His duties included preparation of the catalogue of medieval antiquities. Ward-Perkins, a keen naturalist, brought to the task the same scientific acumen that a zoologist might bring to a taxonomic study in his classification of the material and the work remains a standard work for the period. Time outside the museum was spent in directing his own excavations at Welwyn, Herts, one of the first Romano-British villas (Lockleys) to be excavated, and at the Iron Age hill fort of Oldbury near Ightham in his own Kent.

On the eve of the war he accompanied Wheeler on his expedition to study the hillforts of Northern France and was appointed the first — and as it transpired the sole — holder of the chair of Archaeology in the Royal University of Malta. He carried out a six-month survey of the prehistoric monuments in the island before returning to England.

In August 1939 Wheeler returned hurriedly from France to found the 48th TA Light Anti-Aircraft Battery around a cadre of five — including himself and Ward-Perkins, a unit that grew rapidly into the 42nd Mobile Light AA Regiment of four batteries. The regiment under Wheeler's command saw service in North Africa and was at El-Alamein.

Ward-Perkins himself had been in a motor accident near Ismailia and missed the battle. The accident was for him a happy one for during the ten days spent in a front line hospital before being transferred to Syria he met his future wife Margaret Long, whose support and loyalty was to be of incalculable help throughout his life.

After a honeymoon at Luxor the British advance into Libya saw Ward-Perkins, now a major, briefly seconded (on Wheeler's initiative) from military duties to organize the military government's antiquities department in Tripoli and Cyrenaica. The study and reconstruction of the rich Roman cities of Tripolitania had been commenced during the Italian occupation and the protection of these outstanding monuments must have been both a stimulus and a challenge.

With the promotion of Wheeler to Brigadier, Ward-Perkins found himself for a time in charge of the Regiment before returning for another term in the work of salvage and conservation.

After the allied invasion of Italy he was chosen to head the Monuments and Fine Arts Subcommission of the military government. The task that faced him was herculean but it had its compensations. In the Sitwells' villa at Montegufoni outside Florence he stumbled across masterpieces by Donatello, Botticelli and Cimabue, roughly stacked up or already crated and labelled for transportation to Germany.

After the War Lieut-Col Ward-Perkins was released from military service to take up the Directorship of the British School at Rome, which largely through the devotion of the steward, Bruno Bonelli, had survived the war intact.

Already there were signs of things to come. A large collection of air photographs taken by the RAF during flights over Italy and adjacent lands was quickly secured to serve as an invaluable aid to archaeological studies. From the outset Ward-Perkins established cordial relations with Italian archaeologists and assisted in founding the International Association of Classical Archaeology, then intended to counter the effects of the temporary removal of the great German academic libraries from Rome.

Soon he was secretary-general of the Union of Foreign Institutes in Rome. Realising that Rome could be a base for work urgently needed elsewhere, in the late 1940s he was leading groups to work at Sabratha, where excavations were conducted by Kathleen Kenyon, and later to Lepcis Magna.

By now his colleagues and collaborators were on the scene: Joyce Reynolds, with whom he edited the *Inscriptions of Roman Tripolitania* (1952); Richard Goodchild, Librarian of the School, and later Controller of Antiquities in Cyrenaica; and Jocelyn Toynbee. From association with these and other scholars (including David Oates and Donald Strong) came major papers on the Christian Antiquities in Tripolitania, the Hunting Baths at Lepcis Magna, the system of fortified farms in the hinterland (*Limes Tripolitanus*), and the architecture of Lepcis Magna.

By the mid-1950s the School's range of activities, which included its now fully revived community of Arts scholars, exceeded that of pre-war years and its high standing was attributed to the energy and ability of its young director (appointed CBE in 1955). In 1956 the publication of his report (jointly with Jocelyn Toynbee) on excavations beneath St. Peter's marked the resumption of work in Italy.

In Autumn 1954 a visit with students to the Campagna north of Rome had marked the beginning of his major archaeological project, the South Etruria Survey, to which he devoted most of his energies in the years following. Young scholars from Britain were drawn into a great co-operative study of a landscape in prehistoric, ancient and medieval times. There was field work, documentary study while the artists were encouraged to help as draughtsmen in an enterprise he directed with great zest.

The Survey, chosen in the first instance as a prudent alternative to large schemes of excavation, which were out of favour at the time, brought many new techniques in recording and mapping the history of a landscape and has served as a model for many other projects. Soon the area surveys began to appear in volumes of the *Papers of the British School* which he edited.

Later selective excavations began, notably at Veii where the ingenuity of Etruscan public engineering began to be revealed.

As Ward-Perkins inspired and directed the work of others in Italy so the claims of the wider world pressed upon him. Early in 1957 he taught for a period in the Fine Arts Institute of New York University and in the following years gave major series of lectures in Harvard, Edinburgh, Oxford, London, Rome, Ann Arbor, Sydney and Cincinnati.

Already a Fellow of the British Academy from 1951, he was honoured with membership by the Pontificia Accademia in Rome, the German Archaeological Institute, the Royal Academy of Stockholm and the Academy of Naples.

Honorary degrees came from Birmingham and Alberta. He was awarded the Medaglia d'oro per i Benemeriti della Cultura by the Italian government and in 1962 was Serena medallist of the British Academy and later received the Cultori di Roma Gold Medal.

As he became at a relatively early age one of the most distinguished figures of his generation in Classical Archaeology so he was able to advance projects requiring co-operation from foreign schools and academies. He was particularly responsible for reviving the systematic publication of sculpture in the Roman Empire (*Corpus signoru imperii Romani*) and the great scheme for mapping the Roman Empire (*Tabula imperii Romani*) As president or chairman he encouraged the timid, preached to the unbelieving and, when necessary, simply by-passed the obstructive.

Retirement from the School in 1974 marked by his appointment as CMG the following year increased his tempo of work. After a year in Princeton he was, as academic adviser, largely responsible for the exhibition of remains from Pompeii which drew great crowds to Burlington House in the autumn of 1976. The catalogue produced for that event (jointly with Amanda Claridge) is a remarkable work, among the finest of his publications.

In the following year when he was also elected president of the Society for Libyan Studies, his achievement was acknowledged by Presidency of the XI Congress of Classical Archaeology held in London, being at the time also President of the International Association of Classical Archaeology (FIAC).

Of his books the best known is his *Etruscan and Roman Architecture* (1970) for the Pelican History of Art, written jointly with Axel Boethius. As in his other work he guides the reader to an awareness that building in the Empire was produced by many local traditions of craftsmanship and design, working in a variety of materials.

No less an achievement were his studies of brick construction published in the second volume of the *Great Palace of the Byzantine Emperors* (1959).

For 28 years he conducted the affairs of a British institution in a foreign city with no diplomatic status but with quasi-diplomatic responsibilities. Not only did he succeed in this but he contributed much to the reviving of Rome as a centre of humanistic studies. With his wife, Margaret, he guided skilfully a ship whose passenger list was constantly changing.

Lady Watson, widow of Sir Charles Watson, KCIE, CSI, died on May 28 at the age of 94. She was Phyllis Marion, daughter of Alfred Field, and she was married in 1912. Her husband died in 1934.

Lady Lockhart-Mummery, wife of Sir Hugh Evelyn Lockhart-Mummery, KCVO, MD, FRCS, died on May 29. She was Elizabeth Jean Crerar, daughter of Sir James Crerar, KCIE, CIE, and she was married in 1946.

Mr Frank Keighley, who died on May 30 at the age of 81, entered the Union of London and Smiths Bank as a junior clerk in 1915. The bank was amalgamated with the National Provincial Bank in 1918 of which, when he retired in 1961, he was chief general manager.

Lady Benson, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Rex Benson, DSO, MVO, MC, died on May 25.



Business News

THE TIMES June 5 1981

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 535.6 up 8.9
FT Gilts 66.05 down 1.14

■ **Sterling**
$1.9410 down .765 points
Index 94.8 down 2.1

■ **Dollar**
Index 109.2 up 1.3
DM 2.4110 up 315 points

■ **Gold**
$460.50 down $13

■ **Money**
3 mth sterling 12¼-12⅛
3 mth Euro $ 18¼-18¼
6 mth Euro $ 17⅛-17⅛

IN BRIEF

Morgan bids £6.54m for Myson

Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, has offered £6.54m for the ordinary shares in Myson, the central heating group, on behalf of a group of institutional investors and two individuals, Mr R. A. A. Wheeler and Mr J. G. Salkeld. Myson ran into financial difficulties at the end of 1980.

Morgan Grefel lis prepared to pay 68p for each Myson share. It will also offer £2.91m for the three millilon convertible preference shares acquired by Barclays Bank when it put together a rescue package for Myson in April. Barclays will not convert the preference shares if the offer becomes unconditional.

Mr Wheeler and Mr Salkeld were until recently associate directors of GEC. If the offer succeeds, Mr. Wheeler will become managing director of Myson. The nstitutions include five fund management companies, and a subsidiary of Morgan Grenfell.

Beecham profits up

Beecham, the drugs company which has just won a United Kingdom licence for its antibiotic Augmentin, increased pretax profits by 10 per cent to £151m in the year to March 31 on sales up from £1,028m to £1,195m. The year's dividend was raised by 9 per cent to 9.52p gross.

Financial Editor, page 19

Wire report

The worst is yet to come for the wire industry, according to Inter Company Comparisons, a report released yesterday. Average return on capital fell by one-fifth from 15.9 per cent to 12.7 per cent between 1977 and mid-1980, and sales growth failed to keep pace with inflation, the report says.

Hire purchase rises

Hire purchase contracts agreed last month totalled 115,871 according to Hire Purchase Information. This compares with 103,432 in April and 132,731 in May 1980. New cars accounted for 37,085 of last month's contracts and those for used cars amounted to 50,214.

Car output falls

Car production in Britain fell by 48 per cent during the four weeks to May 23 according to the latest provisional estimates. Only 45,000 (seasonally adjusted) were produced compared with 86,000 in the previous four weeks. The fall is attributed to industrial disputes.

Electronics venture

A group of electronic companies from the Nato countries, among them Plessey and Marconi, will set up a joint venture called ACCSCO SA, registered in Brussels, to work on the Nato air command control system.

US-China trade up

Trade between the United States and China should reach $6,000m (£3,015m) this year and $10,000m by 1984, Mr Malcolm Baldridge, America's secretary of commerce, said. Trade between the countries doubled last year to $4,800m, two thirds of it in United States exports.

Research project

Butler Cox & Partners will undertake a major 12 month £250,000 research project into the market for office technology.

The project will be funded partly by the Department of Industry and subscribing companies which include British Telecom, ICL and Rediffusion Computers.

Wall Street lower

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 986.74, down 2.97 on Wall Street yesterday. The $SDR exchange rate was 1.15285 while the £-SDR rate was 0.590297.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Global Nat Res	80p to 800p	Royal	13p to 396p
Heath CE	18p to 271p	Sedgwick	13p to 144p
Husky Oil	20p to 700p	Stand Chart	20p to 629p
Philips Lamps	23p to 475p	Sun Alliance	16p to 832p
Reckitt & Col	16p to 274p	Willis Faber	22p to 355p

Falls

Brit Vita	16p to 164p	Rosehaugh	5p to 310p
Cape Ind	12p to 220p	Ricardo Eng	12p to 450p
Comet Radio'vn	10p to 146p	Trust Sec	8p to 361p
Lasmo	13p to 549p	Tanks Cons	10p to 308p
Paterson-Zoch	15p to 425p	Unitech	6p to 230p

Extra tax relief to aid small businesses

By Bryan Appleyard, Financial Staff

The Government has bowed to pressure from businessmen and accountants and introduced big changes in its business start-up scheme designed to help small companies.

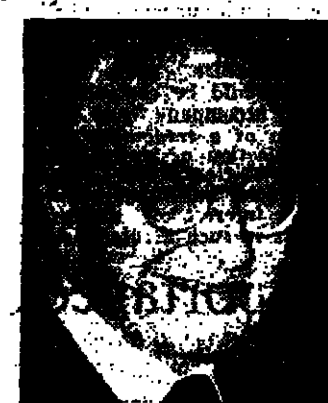
The scheme, which offers tax relief on up to £10,000 of private investment in new ventures, was widely welcomed when it was announced in the Budget. But the mass of restrictive clauses which emerged with the publication of the Finance Bill prompted a barrage of criticism.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday announced significant easing of the terms for tax relief.

Another significant change in the Finance Bill was also announced. This was the withdrawal of Clause 34, which provided for a 30 per cent deduction from payments made to agency workers operating through companies. Some pressure groups had claimed the effect of this clause would be so severe as to offset most of the benefits for small businesses in the rest of the Budget.

The Government is to hold further consultations on the clause with a view to introducing revised proposals next year, and Mr Peter Rees, the Treasury Minister, said the start-up scheme was still open to further debate.

Tax relief will now be available for investors in a company during the first five years of its life, instead of three, and on up to 50 per cent of its equity instead of 30 per cent.


Mr Rees: debate needed to establish right balance

It will also be available where the company has one or more 100 per cent-owned subsidiaries, for investment in more than one class of ordinary shares, and when a company has fixed rate preference shares.

Tax relief will be available when a brother or sister is the investor, and the rules when relief can be withdrawn are also being relaxed. This latter area will include a reduction from five years to three over which the Inland Revenue can claw back relief when a business no longer qualifies for help.

Finally, an investor can receive fees from the company in a legitimate professional or trading role, although he cannot receive fees as a non-executive director.

Mr Rees said the Government was pioneering with its scheme, and it was inevitable that it would take some time and debate to get the balance right.

"We always recognized that we had to be open minded in the committee stage and provisions were subjected to a blast of criticism", he said.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, broadly welcomed the changes, but said he was disappointed that no move had been made to broaden the types of business which could qualify.

The Government should have allowed investors to receive fees as non-executive directors as this was a key way of bringing in proven business expertise, he said.

Mr Michael Grylls, chairman of the Tory Small Business Bureau, also attacked the restrictions on types of businesses able to qualify and said he would continue to fight for a broadening of the scheme.

Mr William Poeton, of the Union of Independent Companies, said the changes were welcome but the necessity for them appeared to indicate amateurism in the initial drafting of the Bill.

Helping small businesses, page 19

Smoothing Japan's car exports

By Peter Hill

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, yesterday said that his Government would help solve as smoothly as possible the problem of Japan's rising car exports to Europe.

Speaking in Tokyo against the background of the unproductive talks earlier this week between officials of the European Commission and Japanese trade experts, Mr Suzuki said that the issue was primarily one for the industries concerned and direct governmental intervention was not appropriate.

"But the Japanese Government will help the automotive industries solve the problem as smoothly as possible," he said.

Mr Suzuki's soothing words, however, coincided with a warning from another British industry on the need for a tougher line to be taken against Japanese exports to Europe.

Mr Suzuki: government intervention not appropriate.

Mr Harry Hornsby, director general of the Process Plant Association, which has an annual turnover of £2,500m and employs more than 80,000 people, referring to the talks earlier this week, said that it was disappointing that the Japanese had been unable to grasp the European point of view.

"Although British industry's immediate concern is with motor vehicles, electronics and shipbuilding, we are only too aware that the existing Japanese pressure for exports may shortly become a serious problem for the British process plant industry", he said.

Citing the gross imbalance in trade between Europe and Japan in mechanical engineering products and electronic and electrical engineering goods over the past ten years, Mr Hornsby said that previous experience suggested that the only way to negotiate was from a position of strength.

Urging the British Government to impress on the Japanese authorities the need to open up the Japanese market to exports from Europe and investment in Japan by European companies, Mr Hornsby pointed out that trade was a two way business.

Turning back the tide, page 19

Warning from BP on capital spending

By Ronald Pullen

British Petroleum said yesterday that continuing heavy losses in most of its oil products markets could lead to further rationalization of these businesses. The group said that it was reviewing its oil trading activities and the planned level of capital spending in those areas.

BP is also calling on the Government to reduce the price of North Sea oil since the high price of supplies from its Forties Field is putting it at a severe disadvantage to its competitors.

The warning came with BP's first quarter figures which showed a drop in net income from £550m to £395m mainly because of continuing heavy losses in these downstream activities. The figures were, however, slightly better than the market had been expecting. Without the vague rumours of a cash raising move materializing, the shares ended 4p ahead at 374p.

BP blamed depressed markets for oil and chemical products in the UK and Europe for the drop in profits. Taking into account the need to replace oil stocks with higher priced supplies, BP's drop in current cost earnings was even more pronounced with net income shrinking from £150m to only £10m.

Despite higher production from its Alaskan and North Sea crude oil production, this was largely offset by a more-than-doubled tax bill. BP complained yesterday that with the new supplementary petroleum duty in the United Kingdom the marginal tax rate on its Forties production was now over 100 per cent, and the situation is becoming progressively worse with spot crude discounts widening.

The chief support for BP continues to come from its United States Sohio subsidiary which increased its contribution from £135m to £175m in the first quarter. Chemicals, however, continue to be a major drain on the group with a first quarter operating loss of £36m excluding Sohio and rationalizations are planned for this area of the group's operations as well.

Financial Editor, page 19

EEC to penalize steel undercutting

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, June 4

European Community industry ministers today authorized the European Commission to impose severe penalties on steel companies which sell their products at less than published prices.

Viscount Etienne Davignon, the EEC Industry Minister, said that Brussels had been given powers to fine companies up to 1 per cent of their annual turnover. The sanctions would also apply to independent traders who sold steel cheaply out of stock.

Companies found in breach of the new pricing rules would be scrutinized by the commission to see if they were using state aid for purposes other than restructuring. If so, the commission could withdraw approval for such aid.

The price measures will form part of the new regime which will govern the steel market after June 30 when the present system of compulsory production quotas expires.

The aim is to push prices up by 15-20 per cent to bring them into line with those in Japan and America.

The ministers, including Mr Norman Tebbit, Britain's junior Industry Minister, said the compulsory quotas should be renewed in the case of coils, which account for about 50 per cent of all steel products, and should be maintained until July 1 next year.

This had been proposed by the European Commission because of the refusal of Kloeckner Werke, the big West German steel company, to go along with a system of voluntary quotas accepted by others.

In the case of plates, heavy sections and wire rod, which account for about 30 per cent of finished products, the ministers agreed to the voluntary arrangements which steel manufacturers have promised to observe after June 30.

Despite a strong appeal before the meeting from Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, member states made little progress towards agreement on phasing out all state aid to the steel industry.

Sterling's strength in Europe remains the key

Pound's fall brings little joy

By Business News Staff

Sterling's slide against the dollar will provide a useful boost to companies who have fought to retain export markets. But the prospects for a substantial rise in demand are remote.

Although industry has been suffering from the effects of Sterling's strength in overseas markets, which has been an important factor in cutting profitability, its strength against major European currencies is more significant.

The Confederation of British Industry, which has been particularly outspoken on sterling's high value, said that industry expected no substantial improvement in business.

"Overall demand is still depressed and world markets intensely competitive. However, exports have been holding up remarkably well and the lower pound rate should ease the position of those companies who have been hanging on to overseas business with little or no profit", said the employers' organization.

But business leaders are anxious that the rate against the dollar should be held at around $2 and that there should not be a return to higher interest rates.

The pound's downward slide has put pressure on the British National Oil Corporation to cut North Sea oil prices.

North Sea operators with refining interests are keen to see prices drop from the $39.25 a barrel reference level, particularly as the spot price for high quality North Sea crude is down to $33 or $34 a barrel. But operators without refining activities would be happy to have price levels maintained and there is understood to be considerable conflict inside those consortia which represent both shades of opinion.

Government ministers have also expressed differing views, although the fall in sterling's value will aid the argument that North Sea prices should follow market trends and that the loss of tax revenue has now been minimized.

For every $1 a barrel fall in the price of oil, the Government loses about £200m a year in income. Advocates of further price cuts say that the reduction of the pound's value against the dollar is already providing the Exchequer with an additional £500m this year and that a $2 a barrel drop will have little impact.

One oil industry observer said yesterday: "It depends how much the Chancellor regards the extra revenue as a windfall. However, if prices are not reduced, he could be caught by the law of diminishing returns as customers seek cheaper supplies elsewhere."

The BNOC's quarterly review of prices is scheduled for July 1 but it may be forced to make a decision earlier. BNOC's crude prices are closely tied to those of the North African producers who are themselves more likely to cut their rates after this week's decision by Mexico to slash $4 a barrel off prices.

The weak pound's boost to British industry was quickly absorbed by the market yesterday as share prices roared ahead to push the *FT* Index up 8.9 to 555.6.

Stocks to benefit were exporters and those with high dollar earnings, particularly insurance brokers. Equities with big United States interests came in for heavy buying and shares such as Glaxo, up 8p to 364p; Unilever, higher by 11p to 571p and GEC, better by 12p to 698p, all raced ahead. Brokers Willis Faber jumped 25p to 355p and CE Heath 19p to 271p.

But worries about higher interest rates and inflation, produced losses of up to £2 in government securities.

BL was the only big British motor manufacturer to greet the pound's fall against the dollar with any great degree of enthusiasm. The general feeling in the industry was that there was still no evidence that the pound was losing value against European currencies.

BL said the news would be a particular relief for Jaguar, which exports 25 per cent of its production to the United States. But Metro sales in Europe remain unaffected.

Ford said: "This downward movement is largely based on the oil glut, and we do not believe it is a long term thing. We think sterling will remain a high value currency on the basis of North Sea oil. We would have to be convinced over a much longer period before we could say it would affect our export opportunities".

The pound's strength has long been one of the main complaints of British motor manufacturers and was cited this week as one of the main reasons for Talbot UK's pre-tax loss of more than £75m. BL is losing £1.5m a day, and recently halted TR7 production and is switching Rover production to Cowley.

ICI, Britain's largest group, which has seen profits tumble over the past year, cautiously welcomed the fall in sterling. A spokesman for the company said last night: "The effect of the fall is likely to be helpful but will be neutralized by the higher cost we will have to pay for some of our raw materials which have to be paid, or are calculated, in dollars. A fall in European currencies is more significant because it will help our exports".

Bankers welcome strong dollar

From Frank Vogl, Lausanne, June 4

An era of strong US dollar is becoming firmly established and leading United States international bankers are confident of the dollar's sustained position.

The American authorities are unlikely to intervene on a big scale in the currency markets to arrest the rapid advance of the dollar. There appears to have been no official British request to the United States to take joint action in the markets to secure a stronger pound in terms of the dollar.

High American interest rates, as well as recent international oil price developments, account to some extent for the strength of the dollar. But bankers note that there is increasing international confidence in America's economic outlook relative to that of other industrial nations.

A clear sense of confidence about the dollar and indeed about international financial problems has been evident at the International Monetary Conference here, which brings together the chief executives of the roughly 100 largest banks in the world. Numerous central bank governers are also attending this meeting, including the two top officials from the United States, Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, and Mr Anthony Solomon, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

A Swiss banker said he expected the dollar to appreciate still further, though not much more so before stabilizing at its high level. He did not believe that the dollar would weaken significantly if there was a moderate decline in United States interest rates in coming months. Bankers do not expect a substantial fall in American interest rates.

One European banker said that the long period of dollar weakness produced consistent currency market crises, with the evolution of a multi-currency reserves system. A period now of dollar strength could produce a more orderly and calmer world currency system, the banker suggested.

Saudi Arabia has vast dollar holdings and Mr Abdul Aziz Alquraishi, governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, certainly appeared happy here at the rapid increase in value of these assets.

Oil tax 'not hindering exploration'

By Edward Townsend

Senior Department of Energy officials assured MPs yesterday that the Government did not consciously use taxation as part of its North Sea oil depletion policy.

Mr David Jones, deputy secretary at the department, told the all-party select committee on energy that present taxes on oil companies were not discouraging investment or exploration.

"The aim is to strike a balance between getting an economic rent for the nation and not reaching the point where it would hinder exploration; and the Government thinks that it has got the balance about right."

The committee was told that 79 blocks have been awarded in the latest North Sea licensing round and the department had commitments from companies to drill 135 wells with the possibility of a further 40. The commitments represented a doubling of the number of proposed wells per block compared with the last licensing round.

In support of the department's view, the Treasury said in a memorandum to the committee: "The objective of the North Sea tax system is to raise revenue in a way which shares the benefits of North Sea oil between the companies and the community at large. The North Sea tax system has not been designed to influence depletion rates".

It added that in 1981/82 North Sea revenues were expected to account for about 8 per cent of total central government revenues. Income from the North Sea, at 1979/80 prices, is forecast to rise from £4,500m in 1981/82 to £5,250m in 1983/84. 84.

ICL set to unveil staff cuts

By Bill Johnstone

The management of ICL will today disclose to its staff unions the company's plans to reduce the workforce substantially.

Union representatives in London will be told of the company's financial condition and the need to shed labour.

The cuts, although expected, are being announced less than one month after the appointment of Mr Robert Wilmot as the new managing director and Mr Christopher Laidlaw as the new chairman.

The Sperry Corporation, which was at the forefront of discussions with ICL about a joint venture, predicted three weeks ago that at least 3,000 jobs would need to be shed at ICL for it to survive.

Further predictions by Sperry suggested that ICL would need millions of dollars as fresh capital to make it viable.

The Government has already provided a guarantee to the company for a £200m loan over the next two years.

Last year the company shed 2,500 of its workforce, closing its factory at Winsford.

The rescue by the Government of ICL was not designed to protect all the jobs at the company.

On the day of their appointment at the beginning of last month, the new managing director and chairman stressed that they could not guarantee jobs. Their brief from the Government is to make the company commercially viable.

The decision to back the ailing computer company, whose half-yearly results are expected to be made public next Monday, was made with the personal intervention of Mrs Thatcher.

Hogg Robinson expands American interests

By Michael Prest

Hogg Robinson, one of Britain's leading insurance brokers, has expanded its interests in the United States by acquiring an indirect stake in two American insurance brokers.

The companies are Penn General Agencies, of California, and Bankers and Shippers Insurance Company, of New York. The stake has been bought through a subsidiary of Republic Hogg Robinson, a partnership between Hogg Robinson North America and Republic Steel Services.

Both Penn General Agencies and Bankers and Shippers were subsidiaries of PennCorp Financial. The partnership, which was set up last year, is paying $29m for Penn General Agencies and $13.5m for Bankers and Shippers, a total of $42.5m.

Republic Hogg Robinson will finance the purchases by bank borrowings of $21m and by its partners providing $10.75m cash each. The partners and their parent companies are not guarantors to the banks borrowings.

Penn General Agencies has 22 offices throughout the United States, although its headquarters is in Los Angeles. It places property, casualty, marine and aviation insurance. Revenues last year were $24m and pretax profits $2.39m.

Bankers and Shippers is based in North Carolina and is a leading firm in truck insurance. It is licensed to underwrite business in every state of the union and has reinsured past liabilities so that they do not have to be taken up by Republic Hogg Robinson.

Health paper aims to dry out industry

How drinkers drain profits

By Peter Hill

Secret, and not so secret, drinking in Britain's factories could be costing industry hundreds of millions of pounds a year through reduced efficiency and accidents.

Management and trade unions are now being urged to take a much firmer grip on the problem drinkers.

As a first step, the Health and Safety Executive yesterday published a guidance paper endorsed by four Secretaries of State, including Mr James Prior, the Employment Secretary.

This Ministerial quartet estimates that, if the impact on family and friends is taken into account, as many as one in 25 of the population of England and Wales have severe alcohol related problems. The proportion is higher in Scotland.

The executive's guidance paper is designed to stimulate discussion among trade unionists and managers on how workers can be tempted away from the bottle. It suggests that the workplace is an excellent point from which problem drinkers can be guided on to the path of righteousness and sobriety.

Problem drinkers, says the executive, are those people whose consumption of alcohol causes medical or social harm or affects their standard of work.

Under existing conventions most managers tend to deal with problem drinkers either by turning a blind eye or by sacking the offender. Both courses serve only to exacerbate the problems of the company and the drinker.

The health executive is urging employers and unions to draw up and implement policies designed to encourage problem drinkers to seek assistance and treatment in order to play a full and useful role in their organizations. These policies should start in the boardroom (where there is often a drinks cabinet), and spread down the line to the shop floor.

The paper also advocates a programme of education on the effects of alcohol so that workers and managers are aware of the consequences of excessive drinking.

But, before managers and shop stewards rush off for a crash course in how to spot a problem drinker and develop their own course of treatment, the executive's paper advocates caution. The tell-tale signs—impaired concentration, tremor, and iritability—should only be used as indications. Proper diagnosis, it says, should be made by qualified people.



EEC study on Italy's import levy

The European Commission is to send a special mission to Rome today to investigate Italy's mandatory import deposit scheme introduced last week to cut back the country's large payments deficit.

It is thought that the commission officials will try to persuade the Italians to exempt some steel products and most agricultural imports from the scheme which obliges Italian importers to deposit the equivalent of 30 per cent of the value of the goods in a non-interest account at the central bank for three months.

Mr Beniamino Andreatta, the Italian Treasury *Minister*, *discussed* the measures in Brussels with Mr Francois Xavier Ortoli, the European commissioner responsible for financial affairs.

It is understood that the Italians might be sympathetic to exempting foods from the import deposit regulations, as this would help to hold down inflation, but are unwilling to make a similar concession on steel imports.

Oil prices drop

Consumer prices for oil products sold inside the European Community dropped slightly at the end of May, but at the same time both prices for imported oil and Rotterdam spot prices steadied.

The increase in consumer prices since December 1978 to the week ending May 25 fell to 92 per cent from 93 per cent the week before. EEC consumer prices for oil have been dropping steadily since the beginning of April.

Compensation sought

Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd has asked Iraq for compensation on losses arising from construction delays to cement plants in Iran due to the Gulf war.

Kawasaki has not disclosed the amount of compensation asked, but its financial statement for the 1980 year ended March 31 shows the company had a special loss of 5,000m yen (about £10.8m) in connexion with the plant construction.

Steel firm's loss

Spain's only privately owned integrated steel firm, Altos Hornos de Vizcaya SA (AHV), lost a record 10,940m Pesetas (about £58.5m) in 1980.

Last month six leading Spanish banks agreed to reschedule commercial debts worth almost 16,000m Pesetas (about £85.6m) contracted by AHV, which is 27 per cent owned by US Steel Corporation.

Labour laws eased

China is to liberalize labour laws for foreign investors in its three special economic zones in Southern Guangdong Province. Foreign investors will have more power to set wages and dismiss workers employed in joint-venture or compensatory trade arrangements.

Coal-fired car

General Motors Corporation of America, while making clear that it does not plan to build vehicles that burn coal, has demonstrated two cars capable of running at least short distances on powdered coal.

Malaya steel plant

Nippon Steel Corporation is negotiating with the Malaysian Government for the construction of a $360m (about £184m) reduction plant at Kuala Trengganu on the east coast of Malaya.

Pipeline project

Canada's National Energy Board has approved the construction by Trans Mountain Oil Pipeline Limited of a pipeline from the United States-Canadian border to Edmonton, Alberta.

West German benefits

The West German Parliament has approved the Government's plans for social and unemployment benefits by passing the labour *ministry's* DM54,000m (about £11,157m) budget.

Short-time working

Agfa-Gevaert AG is considering the introduction of short-time working for about 1,000 of its 5,000 workforce at Leverkusen and Muelheim plants in West Germany.

India refinery venture

A new oil refinery, designed by the Soviet Union to process 120,000 barrels of crude a day, will be partially commissioned in India's northern Mathura city next October.

Steel output up

West German crude steel production in May rose 10.7 per cent to 3.61 million tons from April. Pig iron production increased 9.8 per cent to 2.78 million tons.

Car sales drop

A total of 15,197 new cars were registered in Sweden in May, down 4,062 a year ago, the Swedish motor industrial association reported.

Insolvency record

A total 680 West German companies were declared insolvent in March, the highest for any single month, the Federal Statistics Office said yesterday.

Rising dollar will boost Chancellor's oil take

Minimal intervention to back pound

By John Whitmore and David Blake

While keeping a close watch on the behaviour of sterling in foreign exchange markets because of its implications for our international competitiveness and inflation rate, the Government has stuck rigidly to a policy of minimal intervention in the market.

Such intervention as there has been has been relatively minor, with the sole object of smoothing out the wilder fluctuations in rates and preserving an orderly market.

The decision not to pursue an exchange rate target or to intervene heavily to resist a trend, in either direction, is based on two main thoughts.

First, exchange rate targets and intervention are considered to be incompatible with the pursuit of domestic money supply targets. It is felt that the latter must be pursued independenly, with the external price of sterling left to find its own level.

Second, one of the main lessons the authorities learned from the *Sixties* and early Seventies is that official intervention to resist a market trend seldom works. Quite simply, market forces are too strong.

On the face of it, the United Kingdom looks reasonably placed in terms of gold and foreign exchange holdings to defend the pound if it chose to do so. At the end of May, reserves stood at $26,487m (equivalent at the time to £12,793m).

On the other hand, the United Kingdom Government and public sector still owe $15,634m to overseas lenders, not really all that substantial when one thinks what could happen in the face of really sustained pressure on the pound.

One only has to look, for instance, at the large non-resident holdings of sterling monetary assets that have been built up once again over recent years. Figures for overseas holdings of marketable United Kingdom public sector debt are not readily available because quite a lot of these holdings are hidden behind nominee holdings. *But* last December's annual Bank of England attempt to identify holders of the National Debt put overseas holdings at rather more than £6,000m nominal stock.

In addition, there are large overseas holdings of sterling bank deposits in the United Kingdom. These stood at almost £11,500m at the end of 1980, having doubled in just two years. Non-residents also hold sterling deposits in financial centres outside the United Kingdom.

It is no longer just what overseas investors may decide to do with their money that the *authorities have to consider*, however. Now that exchange controls have been dismantled, the United Kingdom residents too are free to switch their money out of sterling into overseas currency.

Resident holdings of foreign currency in London in fact have been building up quite fast recently, rising from £5,500m last autumn to just over £8,000m by this spring—though part of this spring's rise will reflect the rise in the value of the foreign currencies held rather than further large-scale switching out of the pound.

The drop in the value of the pound is likely to bring a bonus to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. North Sea oil prices, like all prices for oil, are quoted in dollars so the sterling price of oil increases whenever the pound goes down against the United States currency. Over the past few months the pound has fallen by more than 17 per cent against the dollar. This is considerably more than the cut of around $4, or roughly 11 per cent, which is expected shortly in the price for North Sea oil in dollar terms. The sterling price of oil is thus unlikely to fall below the figure used in making Budget calculations earlier this year.

Over the next few months, however, a prolonged period of weakness in oil prices could lead to one of the Government's prime sources of revenue coming under pressure.

This year the Chancellor is expected to receive £5,880m from total North Sea revenues. He introduced a special new tax in his Budget *which is expected* to account for £1,000m of his receipts. The Government forecasts of revenue are based on the assumption that the dollar price of oil will continue to rise.

The net result of a drop in the value of the pound against the dollar will be to increase prices for petrol and other oil products on sale in the United Kingdom. Much of the benefit of this will go to the Chancellor because the United Kingdom is *now self-sufficient* in oil. *The* result *is* equivalent to an increase in indirect taxes on oil.

£17m commercial telecoms network planned for London

By Bill Johnstone

A secondary telecommunications network costing £17m over the next three years, to be funded in part by special premiums paid by users, is to be provided by British Telecom for businesses in London.

Banks and financial institutions which will be the bulk of the customers for this service have indicated that they would be willing to assist in the financing.

Rooftop lasers and microwave radio links for carrying data and speech will be among the items offered on the service, which is expected to begin in September.

Most of the new network will use conventional cabling, but rooftop microwave links will be used where underground circuits are not available.

Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, outlining the system yesterday, said: "Firms who want to avail *themselves of these* premium facilities will be able to get connected to the new network on demand."

Sir George denied that British Telecom was creating a system which encouraged queue jumping by those prepared to pay extra for connexion to the network.

British Telecom emphasized that the scheme would be paid for largely by users and the *premium system of payment* was the most economic method to adopt.

Sir George Jefferson: not trying to encourage queue *jumping*.

The City of London will be connected in September and by September 1982 seven other principal areas in inner London will be linked.

Plans for the new system have been the result of discussions with the City Liaison Committee and its standing committee on policy and planning on information technology, chaired by Mr Timothy Bevan, chairman of Barclays Bank.

Barclays Merchant Bank is also in a consortium with British Petroleum and Cable & Wireless, which plans to operate a private data network similar to that of British Telecom.

Details of the premiums were not disclosed. But, along with any financial assistance given by the banks or financial institutions, they will help reduce the drain on British Telecom's investment capital.

This year's capital investment programme will cost £1,900m. In the past year £20m has been spent in improving the service on the ordinary public network in the London area.

The corporation claims that among other improvements the response time to an application for an international circuit has been cut from 18 months to 13 weeks and that for a telex from 18 months to five months.

At the beginning of the week the corporation announced board changes and the formation of a new organization called British Telecom Enterprises, which would be run by Mr Peter Benton, the deputy chairman designate of British Telecom and would control all the activities of any subsidiaries set up by British Telecom.

Investment plea on services

An urgent review of Britain's poor performance in service industries has been urged by Mr Geoffrey Chandler, Director-General of the National Economic Development Council, in an internal memorandum.

Productivity in the United Kingdom service sector has been weaker than that of Britain's continental competitors, says Mr Chandler, and he suggests measures to facilitate the shift of resources into services. He says the NEDC should discuss whether existing mechanisms are adequate to ensure proper use of resources.

The memorandum states: "Apart from North Sea oil, services have been the fastest growing major activity in the last 20 years, and have been the principal source of additional employemnt in the United Kingdom."

Mr Chandler points out that increases in service employment have not absorbed redundancies and job losses in manufacturing industry. Because of differences in type of work, skill requirements and location, any continuing shift towards services in future is likely to be accompanied by increasing levels of structural unemployment.

Forecast of growth in vending

By Our Commercial Editor

Although substantial growth for the £500m-sales automatic vending industry lies ahead, increasing competition and some manufacturing overcapacity is cutting profit margins.

This is the conclusion of a report on the industry published yesterday by ICC Business Ratios, which bases its forecasts of further growth on changes in eating habits, the impact of microprocessors and the forthcoming introduction of 20p and £1 coins.

Even during the recession companies have turned to automatic vending to reduce catering costs, the report says.

The performance of 60 companies over a three-year period to the middle of last year was monitored in the survey. This showed a sales rise of 81 per cent, with 15 companies achieving an annual sales *growth of 30* per cent or more. But profits grew less spectacularly at 44 per cent. Average profit margins slackened from 3.6 per cent to 3.2 per cent and return on capital employed dipped from 27.9 per cent to 21.4 per cent.

One problem for vending machine manufacturers is that the widespread distribution of machines has created a market for replacements, with competition emerging from refurbishers of old machines. This has lead some manufacturers to turn to machine distribution and operation, including marketing of the food and drinks dispensed, to increase trade.

But new microelecronic techniques are increasing the flexibility of vending machines, enabling a greater product range to be dispensed.

The Automatic Vending Industry: ICC Business Ratios, 81 City Road, London EC1Y 1BD; £80.

BUSINESS EXHIBITION

More than 40,000 people are expected to attend the fifth Business to Business Exhibition which opens this Sunday and runs for four days. The exhibition is being jointly sponsored by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Doors open 10 am although the exhibition will be officially opened by Mr Gerald Long, the Times Newspapers managing director, at 11.30 on Sunday morning.

The exhibition will cover every aspect of business from advertising agencies to insurance. About 500 companies booked more than 700 stands. Admission is £2 payable at the door.

Lifeline for self-employed

Insurance scheme to ease jury service

By Derek Harris

Jurors who can suffer financially when court cases they are called on to attend go on for weeks or even months have been thrown an insurance lifeline.

It comes from the London-based Economic Insurance Company, British subsidiary of the French-owned L'alsacienne Group, which normally writes *life, motor, household* and other traditional forms of insurance.

Mr John Ludlow, their accident underwriter, decided to offer insurance against loss of income or additional expenses arising from jury service after a recent fraud case in London ran for 137 days.

Most jurors, normally called for about a fortnight of court hearings, find their cases last only a few days, but some can run for much longer, Mr Ludlow pointed out.

As anybody who lately has been called for jury service will know, the cost of maintaining Britain's system of justice is often borne to a considerable extent by the 12 good people and true, or more often their employers.

The self-employed in particular can be hard-hit and the removal of key executives *from companies* can lead to difficulties which bring little real recompense under the expenses rules operated by the courts.

Court allowances for financial losses are about £15 for a full day's jury service or half that for four hours' or less. Anybody sitting on a jury for more than ten days can, at a court's discretion, get up to about £30 a day, roughly in line with the average national wage.

Jurors also get travelling allowances, including about 10p a mile for the use of a car. Or the court will pay bus or second class rail fares. There are also subsistence allowances intended to meet extra cost of meals and other incidental expenses that run daily from about £1 for a jury attendance of less than five hours to about twice that for a period not exceeding 10 hours.

The self-employed running a one-man business may not only find that earnings are lost but that longer-term the business may suffer.

Accountants among professional people have already emerged as buyers of the jury service insurance.

It is the first time jury service cover of this kind, which offers insurance of up to 200 per cent of income with no deductions for the expenses *paid by the courts*, has been offered in this form, according to Mr Ludlow.

Business appointments

Reed finance director

Mr K J Morton, currently treasurer of Reed International, has been appointed finance director from July 1. He will become a member of the executive committee. *Mr J. D. Cormie will* relinquish responsibility as finance director and be appointed chief executive of the building and home product area. He will remain a member of the executive committee. Mr G. S. G. Witherington will continue as deputy chairman and as a member of the executive committee of the company, but will relinquish his executive responsibilities for the building and home improvement product area. He will retire next April.

Mr Alan M. Edis has joined the Supra Group board as commercial director.

Mr G. W. D. Heslett and Mr M. C. S. Morgan have been made directors of Kier International. Mr M. C. S. Morgan has resigned as a director of French Kier Construction.

Mr C. M. Winter, deputy managing director of the Royal Bank of Scotland, has been appointed to the board of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

Mr P. J. D'Angelo, president and chairman of Noonan, Astley & Pearce of New York, has been appointed to the main board of Peat Group, based in London.

Mr W. J. M. Bradbury has become sales and marketing director of Firth Brown.

The Duchess of Devonshire has been appointed a non-executive director of the housing division of Tarmac.

Mr Michael D. Harvey has been made a director of Steinberg Group and Mr Alan J. Devine has resigned as a group director.

Mr Mark Samuels, managing director of P-E Computer Services, has been appointed to the board of P-E International.

Mr Peter Wright has been appointed the United Kingdom marketing director of van Rietschoten and Houwens, the Netherlands based electrical/electronics group.

Mr Bill Davis, company secretary and financial controller, and Mr Soren Aarup become general managers and alternate directors of PRIVATbanken, London.

Mr J. Campbell McGarvie is the new managing director of Control Dataset.

Mr Peter West hs joined the board of Terrapin International.

Mr Peter N. R. Waterman is now managing director of The Palitoy Company.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Consequences of harmonizing the EEC laws on trademarks

From Mr Neville March Hunnings

Sir, A short while ago the EEC Commission published the text of a draft directive and regulation to harmonize the Common Market laws on trademarks. Among the many provisions of purely legal or commercial interest there is one to which attention should be drawn in literary circles, who might be forgiven for imagining that this law was quite unconcerned with them.

Publishers of dictionaries, encyclopaedias and similar works would be compelled by law to accompany "any reproduction of a trademark" with an indication of its trademark status (article 4 of the directive, article 9 of the regulation).

The interest of trademark owners in such a rule is clear. They want to avoid popular marks becoming merely generic and descriptive; and that doubtless is why the Commission has received no objections to it from any of the interests it has consulted.

The rule is pernicious, however, on two grounds. *First*, trademark law should not overspill into fields outside its proper area of concern (competition between traders). Second, and even more important, freedom of the press requires that the only constraint upon the discretion of a dictionary editor should be scholarship. It should be his choice, in the light of the historical and literary evidence, whether to describe Photostat as "a trade name" and Yo-yo as merely "a toy resembling the old bandalore". Under the proposed new rule, for instance, the *Oxford English Dictionary* would have to change its entry for "caterpillar tractor" in spite of the non-trademark origin of that phrase.

Dictionary editors suffer enough as it is from pressures by *special* interests to censor unfavourable definitions. It would be very dangerous to add yet another powerful group to their number. Writers and scholars owe no particular duty to trademark holders and such a duty should not now be introduced by legislation.

Yours faithfully,
NEVILLE MARCH HUNNINGS,
Editor,
Common Market Law Reports,
European Law Centre,
4 Bloomsbury Square,
London WC1A 2RL.
June 2.

Importance of marketing

From Mr Peter B. Blood

Sir, The textile industry's failure to understand the vital importance of marketing is highlighted by Mr Edward Pond in his letter (June 1). It reminded me forcibly of a visit I made some months ago to a large textile company in Lancashire. This company had no marketing or sales plan and I was told that if they had a corporate plan the chairman had "probably written it on the back of an envelope". Unfortunately, as research shows, the absence of marketing know-how is prevalent in more than one sector of business in the United Kingdom.

Young designers who take their skills abroad probably do so out of sheer frustration. I find that many young business students cannot understand why so many senior British managers have still not grasped the fact that every business must not only have as its central activity the satisfaction of customer requirements, it must also possess the necessary marketing skills to achieve this.

Despite my general concern, I am pleased to report that recent winners of our National Marketing Awards have included two companies involved in the textile industry—Dorma and Coloroll. These companies demonstrated that, by a combination of design skill and successfully applied marketing techniques, they were able to increase their company profits dramatically. Why is it that so many firms still fail to understand the connexion between marketing ability and profitability?

Yours faithfully,
PETER B. BLOOD,
Director General,
Institute of Marketing,
Moor Hall,
Cookham,
Maidenhead,
Berkshire, SL6 9QH.
June 2.

Computer frauds

From Mr Stanley Alderson

Sir, Your report, "Computer fraud is booming" (June 1), which referred to the important study made by Dr Kenneth Wong, of BIS Applied Systems, commented. "The financial institutions are becoming increasingly reluctant to make such frauds public and, although the culprit is usually *[sic]* dismissed from his job, charges are rarely preferred and on some occasions the thief has been provided with a reference to enable him to get another job." In other words, certain of our financial institutions do not scruple to be accessories after the facts of raud, and are sometimes ready and covert accomplices to its further perpetration.

If our financial institutions are to regain public confidence, there must be legislation on the lines proposed by Dr Wong to compel notification of computer *fraud to the appropriate* authorities, ie the Fraud Squad at New Scotland Yard.

STANLEY ALDERSON,
7 Highfield Avenue,
Cambridge, CB4 2AJ.
June 1.

The CEGB's reactor plans

From Dr I. M. H. Preston

Sir, Mr David Green, in his letter published on May 27, raises in a misleading way the question "Exactly what size of PWR has the CEGB in mind?".

The CEGB's intention is that as much proven equipment as practicable shall be used in the first PWR constructed in the United Kingdom. Westinghouse already has in operation more than ten reactor units capable of producing around 1100MW(e) and has many more on order for commissioning before the first United Kingdom reactor. The recent performance of this generation of plant has not been indifferent as suggested.

We therefore based the United Kingdom design on the standard Westinghouse 3425MW (thermal) reactor supplying two turbine generators utilizing components proven on the well-developed 660MW(e) machines already in operation in the United Kingdom (eg electrical generators and low pressure turbines). This arrangement produces an output of 1180MW(e) gross and approximately 1120MW(e) net.

Yours faithfully,
I. M. F. PRESTON,
Director-General,
Generation Development and Construction *Division*,
Central Electricity Generating Board,
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RS.
May 28.

Perrier launch of a UF Eau

From Mr P. A. Holloway

Sir, When Perrier launch their piloted hot air balloon, do they intend to follow their current advertising campaign by calling it "U F Eau"?

P. A. HOLLOWAY,
104 Rye Road,
Hoddesdon,
Herts.
May 28.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

BP's downstream wounds

After the recent Shell figures spotlighting the intense pressure oil majors were under from weak product markets, there was plenty of trepidation about BP's first-quarter results. In the event, net income, down from £505m in the opening three months last year to £395m, was better than expected and the shares edged 4p higher to 374p.

But there is little comfort in the figures. Sohio continues to be one of the main props with the dollar's strength helping to boost its contribution by £40m to £175m. The North Sea was also roughly the same as the final quarter last year with a drawdown of stocks in the period offsetting the higher tax take. Chemical losses outside the United States were also lower at £36m indicating that Shell may have been right in suggesting that last year's dramatic slump had at least stabilized. And finally BP has also benefited to the tune of perhaps £25m on its dollar currency holdings.

After taking all that into account, BP is plainly still making hideous losses in its downstream markets. Although BP has marginally improved its segmental profits breakdown it is only possible to guess at the scale of these losses but assuming £300m plus of stock profits in the current cost drop from £150m to £10m losses must be running at well over £100m in the United Kingdom and Europe.

Little wonder then that BP is now urging the Government to cut the price of North Sea oil to ease the pressure on product margins. Any change could dramatically alter the downstream returns in the ensuing quarters but rather belatedly BP is now talking of rationalizations in some product areas, and perhaps even in refineries as well. The full-year outturn will also be heavily influenced by the strength of the dollar, the currency in which its production is sold, but it looks as though it will do well to top £900m against last year's £1,435m. Certainly, the trading picture does not suggest any equity raising move as has been rumoured, however much the balance sheet —where almost all the cash is tied up in Sohio and not available elsewhere in the group—provides an illusory financial strength particularly when the businesses outside the United States will be in a cash deficit this year.

● *Any idea that the pound would find investment support around the $2 level were quickly shattered yesterday morning as the rate fell back below the $1.95 mark. The authorities appeared to be taking an extremely relaxed view, however, and have clearly decided that any serious attempt at intervention would be pointless. None the less, the events of the past couple of days have put a new complexion on the future. The United Kingdom may have eschewed interest rate changes out of purely foreign exchange considerations for the past couple of years, and may continue to do so. But the fact remains that the worsening of inflationary expectations must have implications for domestic interest rates and Government strategy, as the gilt market was quick to latch on to yesterday with falls of £2 across the board. Elsewhere on the foreign exchange markets, the failure of the Germans to take fresh action to defend the Deutsche mark sent the dollar soaring 5 pfennigs to DM2.41110 and nobody is betting where it will all end.*

Beecham

Back into gear

The surge in Beecham's shares has been as much due to the group getting a licence for its Augmentin antibiotic as yesterday's good results. But any significant contribution from this new drug is probably three years away and whether Augmentin proves another winner on the scale of Amoxil only time will tell. But Beecham's confidence is undisguised and given the claims it is making for the drug there is every reason to think it will be an important profit earner in the future.

Augmentin apart, the latest results showing pretax profits up from £137m to £151m despite £7m of adverse currency movements, suggest that Beecham is getting back into gear again after several sluggish years by its own standards. After financing costs, acquisitions—mainly Bovril—were a £600,000 drag on profits and the borrowings taken on to fund Bovril explain most of an £8.5m rise in interest charges to £10.4m.

But trading profits from both sides of the business have increased. Pharmaceuticals have made up some of the ground lost in previous years with profits up by £7m to £77m mostly due to good progress from Ticar in the United States and Japan. Consumer products—up from £65m to £79m—have benefited from £6½m loss costs relating to Aquafresh, which is almost in profit in the United States, and a good performance from Jovan.

● *Eagle Star is mounting a stout defence against Allianz. Its letter to shareholders argues against the tender offer on two grounds: that it is too cheap and that a close association with Allianz will restrict Eagle Star's future moves to the detriment of shareholders, and that the advantages will all be Allianz's.*

The defence is bolstered in the classic style by promising a 43 per cent increase in the dividend to 21.4p gross. Shareholders might wonder why a dividend, which on Eagle's admission was always well covered, could not have been raised earlier. On profits, Eagle Star is more reticent, merely stressing that the dividend increase should not be seen as a guide to this year's results.

But the main plank of Eagle Star's defence seems to be its net worth. Its conservative estimate, after taking investment (including property) and the life business into account, is 450p a share, well above the 290p tender offer and even further above last night's market price of 283p, up 4p.

Perhaps the crucial argument, however, is over which way Eagle Star should be heading. The management evidently feels that a 30 per cent blocking stake would prevent the company from developing overseas business, especially where Allianz is also operating. There is also the fear that Eagle Star will come to be regarded as just an appendage of Allianz.

Northern Foods

Help from acquisitions

Northern Foods need not have worried about consumer spending after raising pretax profits by nearly a quarter to £30.6m last year. As figures from Sainsbury and Marks & Spencer (both Northern customers) showed the public has spent heavily on quality foods, and even in beer and milk Northern suffered only a trifling drop in sales volume.

But here the good news in the figures for the six months to March comes to an end. Once the contributions from the United States newcomer Bluebird, and from Dorset



Mr Nicholas Horsley, chairman of Northern Foods.

Foods in frozen pies at home are taken out of the reckoning, Northern made little progress. In beer and milk, price increases can protect margins but this is not the case elsewhere. Bluebird is also having a hard fight against onerous United States interest rates and the difficulties of the meat packing industry. So Northern did well to produce interim pretax profits of £17.2m, around £1m more than outside estimates, against £14.8m after a fall in investment income (reflecting the sale of some gilt edged) and a rise in interest charges.

For the full year, Northern will probably suffer even more from pressure on margins, and from the cost of rolling over the $42.5m borrowed to help pay for Bluebird. The group plans to lower the proportion of debt to shareholders' funds from 48 per cent to 38 per cent this year, and it is stepping up spending on new capacity from £20m this year to £30m next in a drive to extend market share.

The absence of a cash call was a relief, and the shares rose 7p to 172p yesterday. But earlier hopes of the group making around £35m this year against £30.6m now look a shade optimistic.

Business News staff report on the trade conflict between Europe and Japan

Can the flood be stemmed?

Have five years of talks aimed at stemming the flood of Japanese goods into Europe really ended in total failure or is the European Commission just playing poker?

When Sir Roy Denman, the Commission's director of external relations, said on Tuesday that "the talks amount to pretty near zero . . ." was he slamming the door on further discussions with Japan (and by implication preparing to replace cooperation by confrontation) or was he simply hoping to shame the Japanese into concessions?

Sir Roy's talks with Mr Kiyoaki Kikuchi, of the Japanese foreign trade ministry, have been broken off prematurely, but Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, is due to visit Brussels on June 15 and 16.

Mr Suzuki said in Tokyo yesterday that the Japanese government would help to solve as smoothly as possible the problem of rising Japanese car exports to the EEC, though it was, he stressed, chiefly a matter for the industries concerned.

Is this a partial concession in the face of Sir Roy's outburst or simply another in what has become a long line of conciliatory, but ultimately empty, statements by the Japanese?

The Brussels-Tokyo talks demonstrate very neatly one of the great weaknesses of the European Economic Community—its frequent inability to reconcile the common good (the good of the Community as a whole) with the self-interest of its individual member nations.

Trade is one of the areas where there is supposed to be an overall EEC policy, rather than a number of policies conducted by each of the member states. In practice, this has meant that the Commission in Brussels seeks a mandate to act on specific issues.

But there have been serious problems in reaching a common policy on Japan.

The Commission and the member states agree that the growing imbalance of trade between the Community and Japan is a serious problem. Over the past 12 months the Commission has advocated a "global" EEC strategy where it would be given powers by the member states to negotiate a completely new trading relationship with Japan in the so called "sensitive" areas—industries such as cars, television tubes and certain machine tools.

This would mean "trading in" various protectionist agreements that exist between some member states and the Japanese in return for a temporary shielding of weaker European industries from the full force of Japanese competition. The Commission, which is always anxious to pay lip service to the concept of free trade, argues that the shielding should be instituted only to allow the industries in question to restructure themselves, in order to be able to face up to Japanese competition.

Undoubtedly, the most sensitive area at present is the car market, but here existing agreements limiting Japanese access to Europe highlight the Commission's dilemma. The Japanese have become adept at playing one European nation off against another. By offering concessions here and there to individual countries they weaken the chances of the Community as a whole reaching sufficient practical consensus (as opposed to pious statements of intent) to contain the Japanese threat.

In May the Council of Ministers called on the commission to discuss getting a Japanese commitment on subjecting exports of cars to the EEC to measures "analogous" to those negotiated recently by the United States. They wanted a further undertaking that there would be no diversion of cars from the United States to the EEC.

At the time Mr Cecil Parkinson, the British trade minister, said: "What we are saying to the Japanese is that there is no more room on the European market for their motor cars."

These various points are being pressed by the Commission in talks with the Japanese that will culminate in the middle of this month, with Mr Suzuki's visit, but apart from Mr Suzuki's very ambiguous statement yesterday the Japanese have given scarcely an inch.

They clearly sense that there is not enough cohesion between the member states of the EEC. The individual countries have pressed hard for bilateral agreements with Japan or have unilaterally imposed restrictions. Italy allows only a few thousand Japanese cars on to its market each year; in France the Japanese share is kept down to about 3 per cent; while in Britain Japanese car sales are limited by an agreement between the motor industries of the two countries.

TRADE BETWEEN THE EEC AND JAPAN
(Converted into £m)

Imports from Japan	
1976	3,977
1977	5,012
1978	5,796
1979	6,329
1980	7,458
Exports to Japan	
1976	1,692
1977	2,021
1978	2,474
1979	2,994
1980	2,734*

* The apparent fall in EEC exports to Japan in 1980 is largely a result of the strength of sterling against the European unit of account last year.
Source: Eurostat.

So when the Commission complains about Japanese inroads into the West German or Benelux car markets, the Japanese—as happened only last week—turn round and say that they cannot possibly negotiate a deal with the EEC as long as national agreements exist. Moreover, they claim that countries like Denmark, Greece and the Irish Republic are keen to keep their markets open to Japanese cars.

So far, there is no sign that the member states are anywhere near resolving the differing interests of those countries with car industries which have an agreement with the Japanese, those with car industries that do not (Germany, Belgium and Holland) and those with no car industries.

Cars are the principal and most visible worry, but the problem of Europe's trade imbalance with Japan goes far wider and the Commission's difficulties in negotiating block to block agreements are aggravated by the fact that Japan can claim that Europe imposes more quantitative restrictions (a total of 70 by the various member states) on Japanese imports than Japan imposes on goods from Europe (27 in all).

That certainly looks bad. But the restrictions are in many cases anachronistic and of no commercial value (they apply, for example, to such things as meat, honey, umbrella parts, sacks, natural cork and horses), while the EEC claims that the Japanese restrictions are of importance (applying for instance, to food stuffs and leather goods).

The dispute over quantitative restrictions is linked to another important part of EEC policy, which is to get better access to the Japanese market. Here again the Commission has a hard time proving its case. Japan's average across-the-board tariff is slightly lower than the EEC's, but the Commission argues that it conceals some high peaks covering sectors of interest to the Community.

These include dairy products, biscuits and confectionery, where the Japanese tariff is between 35 and 38 per cent and whisky (68 per cent). The EEC claims that its tariff is more homogeneous and therefore more liberal.

Another big bone of contention is non-tariff barriers to trade, where the EEC claims that abnormally strict Japanese regulations (on health and the environment, for example) keep out or obstruct competing EEC products such as pharmaceuticals, agricultural chemicals and electrical appliances.

Three times over the past year (November 25, 1980 and February 17 and May 19 this year) the Council of Ministers has issued statements on trade with Japan. The May one expressed "serious concern at the present state of trade between Japan and the Community and its likely future development" and said: "It is of special importance at the current juncture:

"— that the Community should emphasize once more to the Japanese authorities its preoccupations over the level and excessive concentration of Japanese exports in sensitive areas; and

"— that the Japanese government should take positive steps to increase imports by Japan of Community products."

If Sir Roy Denman's experience is anything to go by—and he is the man who has to try to put flesh on to the bones of the policies outlined by the Council of Ministers and the Commission—then the EEC's pleas are falling on deaf ears.

Peter Norman and Malcolm Brown

How EEC countries are reacting to the Japanese threat

When a country is subjected to a "trade shock"—and Japan has become expert at inflicting such shocks on most of us—then politicians become far more worried about the reactions of the domestic electorate (and such power groups as industrial associations and trade unions) than they are about appearing to be good Europeans. This is why it has become easy for Japan to treat any EEC initiative with less than urgency.

Large non-European countries, such as the United States, have been able to wrest commitments from the Japanese on problem areas like cars (Japan has reluctantly agreed to cut back on vehicle exports to America this year). The EEC has signally failed to get any pan-European agreements. Some small concessions have been made to individual European member states in particular industries, but Japan uses such bilateral arrangements to argue that there is no case for global European-Japanese pacts.

It is instructive to look at the way the individual members of the EEC face up to the Japanese onslaught. All member states subscribed to the Council of Ministers' statements of November, 1980, and February and May this year, which urged the Japanese to moderate their exports (particularly in "sensitive" areas) and called for better access to the Japanese market. But such statements have little meaning unless they can be backed up by all member countries acting in concert. Most member states of the EEC have their own reasons for falling short of that ideal.

☐ Britain's relations with Japan have reached a critical point. The Government, while underlining its commitment to the principles of free trade, is equally wedded to a negotiated settlement through the EEC. But the clamour from recession-hit industry for a much tougher line, including import controls if necessary, is rising.

The motor cycle industry virtually disappeared under Japanese attack and industry-to-industry bilateral deals on cars, television sets and other consumer electronic goods are bending under the continuing strain. This year, Britain's trade deficit with Japan could reach £1,400m.

Pressure being exerted by industrialists on the Government to take a much tougher line is embarrassing ministers acutely. Britain is already the main location for Japanese investment in Europe; and Nissan, Japan's leading motor manufacturer, will decide in the next few weeks whether or not to build a huge new plant in Britain.

Although imports of cars from Japan fell (in value terms) by almost 4 per cent last year, shipments of other goods rose significantly. Imports of non-ferrous metals, for example, increased by more than 634 per cent to £59.5m last year, inorganic chemicals by 86.6 per cent and metalworking machinery by 64 per cent; while "miscellaneous manufactures" recorded a 55 per cent rise, with a value of £117.5m.

☐ Belgium has been traditionally one of the more liberal European countries in its approach to trade with Japan. This is partly because the government has been keen to attract Japanese direct investment.

It is perhaps interesting that the Belgian economics ministry called in Nippon Steel to produce a feasibility study of the plans to merge the Cockerill and Hainault-Sambre steel concerns.

But recently the large share of the Japanese in the Belgian car market has been causing alarm. Although the Japanese claim that the Belgians' fears are largely unfounded because most Belgian car production is exported, they are likely to offer some sort of restraint deal, possibly when Mr Rokusuki Tanaka, Japan's minister for international trade and industry, visits Brussels later this month.

The Belgian government's fears were probably heightened by the recent closures of the Leyland assembly plant in Seneffe and Citroen's abrupt decision to close its assembly plant in Forest, Brussels. But it is the willingness of countries like Belgium to contemplate bilateral agreements which allows Japan to argue that it cannot become involved in pan-European agreements.

☐ France is one of the more protectionist members of the EEC, as shown by its limitation of car imports from Japan to 3 per cent of domestic registrations. Earlier this year the former President, M Giscard d'Estaing, flatly refused to discuss any relaxation of this restriction and there is no reason to suppose that M Mitterrand, his successor, will act any differently.

France has also held out against giving the European Commission the powers it seeks to negotiate more "globally" with the Japanese.

☐ Germany, traditionally the strongest defender of the principle of free trade, has been unsettled by the rapid encroachment of Japanese manufacturers into its car market.

Japan's share of the German car market rose to 10.4 per cent last year from only 1.7 per cent in 1976. This had a bigger impact on public opinion than the virtual disappearance of the once strong German camera industry because of Japanese competition early in the 1970s and the advance of the Japanese in the television and Hi-Fi markets.

So far the government has stuck to its free trade principles, arguing that protectionism against Japan would be suicidal for a trading nation like Germany. But last week, when the captains of West German and Japanese industry got together for their seventh "German-Japanese economic round table", Herr Otto Wolff von Amerongen, the president of the German Association of Chambers of Industry and Commerce, went out of his way to warn the Japanese against diverting to Germany cars originally destined for America.

Otherwise, he said, Germany could be swept up in protectionist policies advocated by less liberal EEC member states.

☐ Holland, like Germany, is heavily dependent on world trade and is therefore in the free trade camp. But Philips has been affected by Japanese inroads into the television market.

The Dutch are also likely to benefit from an eventual restraint package for car deliveries to Benelux—which again weakens the EEC's hand.

☐ Italy's trade deficit with Japan was gradually diminishing in the late 1970s. It went from 245,500m lire in 1977 to 136,100m in 1978 and 86,000m in 1979.

Then this trend was brusquely reversed by a deficit last year of 509,400m lire. Exports declined in lira terms (and even more in real terms after 20 per cent inflation) from 650,100 lire in 1979 to 605,800m lire in 1980, while imports jumped from 736,100m lire to 1,115,200m.

The Japanese made considerable inroads into the Italian market last year with increased sales of sheet steel, machine tools, telecommunications equipment and components, and motor cycles.

For years Italy has tried to protect itself with quotas on about 50 items, of which 14 come in the electronics sector. Car imports are limited to 2,200 a year. Other restricted goods include tinned fish, photographic film, spun silk, bed linen, umbrellas, ceramics, steel goods, cutlery, outboard engines, sewing machines, electric motors and toys. But the overall figures show how ineffective this policy is.

The Government has not had time to work out a new policy to meet the Japanese offensive, beyond supporting maximum coordination in the European Community. At present Signor Arnaldo Forlani heads a caretaker administration and is hardly in a position to take a strong line during the visit by Mr Suzuki, the Japanese prime minister, later this month.

Barriers for Italian exports exist in specific sectors. For example, it is said in the foreign trade ministry, Japanese imports of leather footwear are subjected to a 27 per cent duty and to quotas whose size remains secret. Chemical products are restricted by special lists drawn up by the authorities.

Such barriers, officials say, will never be overcome unless the Japanese government shows a political will for genuine collaboration.

In so far as an Italian policy exists, it is much less opposed to joint ventures and collaboration in investment projects than a few years ago. Much private industry remains protectionist and Fiat has been in the forefront of those who see Japanese cars as a yellow peril for Europe.

But the state-owned Alfa Romeo has under way a joint venture with Nissan for a new car to be manufactured near Naples; and it has been followed in the private sector by Signor Alessandro de Tomaso, who has gained Italian government permission to import Daihatsu engines for a new model to be assembled at his Innocenti works in Milan.

Reporters: Peter Hill (London), Peter Norman (Brussels) and John Earle (Rome)

Business Diary: The gasman stayeth • Fraternal meetings

Energy Secretary David Howell has reappointed the two top men at British Gas for further terms.

Sir Denis Rooke, the chairman, whose present contract runs to the end of this month, will now continue to 1986, a year in which he will celebrate the twentieth anniversary of his first appointment to the corporation. Similarly, deputy chairman Jack Smith has been reappointed for a two-year period.

Sir Denis, a formidable figure at present in the thick of the politicking going on over the planned gas-gathering pipeline project for the North Sea, continues to be a leading figure in the Nationalized Industries' Chairmen's Group. He was heavily involved in the negotiations to organize a new pay mechanism for the state industry chiefs and board members.

At present, the gas corporation chairman receives £48,500 a year and his deputy £35,400. Under the new system where claims are filed with individual ministries—in British Gas's case with Howell—the Treasury and Civil Service Department maintaining an overall surveillance—Sir Denis and his board members will shortly be due for an increase.

● For the first time since it was established in 1962, the National Economic Development Council is to have a female member. Rachel Waterman, deputy chairman of the Consumers' Association, will attend her first meeting of the council next month.

She will replace Michael Shanks, of the National Consumer Council, as one of a group of so-called independent members.

A Midlander, Mrs Waterman has been deputy chairman of the association for two years and has been involved in consumer affairs since the forties. She has wide experience of high level committees in the consumer field, including a two-year stint with the Price Commission.

A devoted resident of her home city, Birmingham—five years ago she published a book entitled *How Birmingham became a Great City*—Mrs Waterman says that her recreations are conversation and sewing.



Photograph: John Manning

The Bennie brothers do not suffer from vertigo, which is just as well, since they have a particular relationship with the National Westminster Bank Tower, Britain's tallest structure, to be opened formally by the Queen next Thursday.

Jack (left) and Ron, pictured here on the 41st floor of the City giant, both joined NatWest in the early 1940s when they were in their teens. Today Jack is general manager of its premises division, which will run the tower, and Ron is general manager of the international banking division which occupies the building.

Ron's office is on the 38th floor, while Jack looks after NatWest's offices from another location, but both waxed lyrical about the structure yesterday.

It cost £82m in 1980 prices, exclusive of land costs of £4.1m, is 600 foot high and is believed to be the world's tallest cantilevered building.

NatWest's preview yesterday did not include a visit to the top viewing floor—the 42nd—but revealed spectacular views of London and seven surrounding counties.

The bank has thoughtfully offered the vertiginous among its staff the chance of working elsewhere or on the lower floors, but apparently there have been few takers.

● Phillips Petroleum, the oil people, have just published a wonderful new glossary of words and phrases used in the energy business which should enlighten those among us who continue to be baffled by the industry's jargon.

If you have ever wondered what "Rotliegendes" are, what they are up to when they are "swabbing", or how to deal with the "tectonic process", the little Phillips book has the answers—even if it is sometimes a little vague.

For instance, under "monomer", the book has: "A simple molecular unit (such as ethylene or styrene) from which a polymer can be made".

Still, at least they are making an effort to throw a little light on one of the more misunderstood areas of our industrial life.

● Capital Radio, the London commercial station, has come up with a novel idea for selling more advertising, even if it does trust to the British weatherman for its success.

The station has arranged to receive a 24-hour forecast from the Meteorological Office at 3 pm each afternoon and it will then offer advertisers special air time "packages" if the weatherman thinks that the following day's weather will reach 20 degrees Centigrade.

Keith Reynolds, Capital's marketing director, says that the target groups are those whose sales go up noticeably in warm weather, such as brewers and ice cream firms.

The unusual thing about the idea is that if the Met man reckons that the required temperature will not be reached the next day then the packages will not be broadcast and advertisers will not pay a penny. Mind you, if the weatherman gets it wrong and it rains cats and dogs, the ads still go out and have to be paid for.

David Hewson

Better deal for small business, but . . .

When the Chancellor announced the Business Start-up Scheme in the Budget he succeeded in surprising the small business lobby.

The idea appeared to represent the kind of innovative thinking which campaigners had been calling for. Then a month later their hopes were dashed with the publication of the Finance Bill: seventeen pages were devoted to the scheme, all of them filled with conditions and restrictions which, by common consent, rendered it unuseable.

Indeed a survey just published by the Conservatives' own Small Business Bureau reveals that 91 per cent of the top accountancy firms said they could not advise their clients to take advantage of the scheme or believed that a complete redraft was necessary.

In essence the idea is simple: individuals wishing to invest in the equity of a new business would be able to offset the investment against their income tax up to a maximum of £10,000 per year. Effectively the Government would be giving back up to £7,500 per year for every £10,000 invested.

But the simple concept was crippled in the drafting process by the desire of the Inland Revenue to prevent its becoming simply a vehicle for tax avoidance and its exclusion of retailing and wholesaling.

The latter point remains unchanged but on the technical restrictions the Treasury has now largely climbed down to meet the objections.

Effectively they had no choice. A barrage of criticism has descended on the scheme from businessmen and accountants since the publication of the Finance Bill. This barrage centred on three problems with the scheme: its complexity, its limitation and its uncertainty.

Complexity is unlikely to be alleviated by these latest changes. The scheme must cover so many eventualities and contingencies that complexity is inevitable, says the Government.

The key limitations—the exclusion of dealers in goods—remain, but in the areas of the structure of the company they have now been substantially eased.

But uncertainty still dogs the scheme. This centres on the question of clawback of the relief by the Revenue. An investor may put his money into a business which clearly qualifies as far as he and his accountants can tell. But since he cannot have control of the company he could find it taking steps beyond his control which would disqualify him for relief.

Thus a manufacturer which decided to become a dealer in goods would render its investor liable for a tax clawback of the relief he had claimed.

Some of the worst effects of this have been eased by the reduction from five to three years of the period over which clawback can be imposed but a large element of doubt persists.

It remains to be seen whether the Government has gone far enough. One key element in assessing this will be the extent to which advantage is taken of "marriage brokers" (agencies specializing in bringing together entrepreneurs and private capital) and investment clubs (where groups of investors club together to provide more substantial stakes while retaining their full individual relief under the scheme).

Bryan Appleyard

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Exporters soar as pound sinks

The sharpest drop in sterling against foreign currencies for two and a half years had conflicting effects in the market yesterday.

Dollar earners/and exporters likely to benefit from a low pound roared away but equities with more to fear from its weakness and worries over inflationary pressure eased to lower prices.

Predictably the worst casualty was the gilt market on fears of higher interest rates and inflation. Heavy selling started early in the morning on the news that sterling had slumped by 6.3 cents to $1.95, leading to losses of up to £2. Jobbers reported investors moving quickly out of government securities on the now strong fears that higher interest rates are on the way.

Most leading equities were in heavy demand on the back of the boost to industry—particularly insurance brokers—and by mid-morning had firmed up to score smart gains. After a 1.2 rise to 547.9 at 10 am the FT Index gathered impetus to add 4 points within an hour. By noon it was 7 up at 553.7 on the day and at 3 pm up another 1.2 before closing at 555.6, a rise of 8.9. The change on the account from last Friday is 13.1.

In the gilt market, longs were cut by £2 as investors sold on interest rate fears. After a brief rally in the afternoon they closed back down by £2. Shorts were not so badly hit, with falls of £½, and at the longer end up to a £1. Again, a rally was short-lived and shorts closed down by up to £¾.

Among the blue chip companies, those with US interests were given a long-awaited boost. Glaxo put on 8p to 364p and Unilever scored an 11p rise to 571p. ICI drew more strength from the fall of the pound against the Deutschemark and the shares gained 6p to 290p. Rank Organisation rose 10p to 192p, Reckitt & Colman 14p to 272p, Thomas Tillings 7p to 187p, Bowater 8p to 265p and BAT Industries 8p to 368p. After results at the top end of expectations, Beecham added another 6p to 205p. The previous night it had gained 9p after the announcement of the go-ahead for the new Augmentin drug. Tube Investments firmed 2p to 172p and Vickers 1p to 181p. Hanson Trust added 9p to 283p.

But the big gains came from the insurance brokers who are in the best position to profit. Brokers C E Heath advanced 19p to 271p, Willis Faber 25p to 355p and Sedgwick Forbes 13p to 144p.

Otherwise the composite insurances were firmer because of the German Allianz assault on Eagle Star on Mondoy. After Eagle's defence document yesterday, and news of a higher dividend, the shares put on 4p to 283p, but Guardian Royal Exchange rose 10p to 302p, General Accident 8p to 318p, Commercial Union 7p to 171p, Royal 13p to 396p, and Phoenix 8p to 270p.

Cautious American buying of Rothmans shares has put a mild spark into the price since the deal between Rembrandt Group and Philip Morris set the shares alight. They were 1p firmer again last night at 66p. R. J. Reynolds, thwarted bidder for Rothmans, says: "We can add nothing to our last statement." That was: "No comment."

Companies reporting took rather a back seat, but jobbers are now revising future results upwards after the pound's fall. BP's results were also better than expected, and its shares firmed at one time 6p to 376p to ease back to 374p. The rights issue from Flight Refuelling left shares 4p lower at 326p but profits in line with forecasts saw Northern Foods ahead by 6p to 172p. Lower profits, but an increased dividend, saw Century Oils dip 4½p to 73½p.

After poor figures on Wednesday, Comet Radiovision dropped another 10p to 146p but further consideration of good profits kept Martin the Newsagent climbing another 8p to 262p.

Equity turnover for June 3 was £130.473m (bargains 14,212). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were: BP, Eagle Star, Beecham, Reckitt and Colman, British Aerospace, Royal Insurance, Muirhead, Rank Organisation, CE Heath, Racal, Unilever, Philips Lamps and Commercial Union Assurance.

Traditional options: Dealers reported quiet conditions yesterday. Calls were made in ICI, Mersey Docks, Tozer Kemsley, Electronic Rentals, and British Land.

Traded options: A total of 1.327 contracts were arranged. BP completed 63, Commercial Union 177, Courts 13, Lasmo 7 and Lonrho 167.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Airflow (F)	18.6(21.6)	0.28*(1.14)	2.92*(9.6*)	Nil(—)	—	0.1(2.3)
Beecham (F)	1.195(1.028)	150.6(136.8)	13.55(12.4)	3.5(3.25)	21/8	6.7(6.13)
BP (‡)	6.772(6.488)	395§(505§)	24.8(32.6)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Century Oils (F)	52.18(39.0)	3.03(3.6)	10.3(16.7)	2.0(1.85*)	8/9	2.8(2.25)
Culter Guard (F)	23.6(24.8)	1.36*(0.34)	4.5(3.2)	—(0.5)	—	—(0.5)
Elec Rentals (F)	181.57(172.37)	14.7(12.2)	5.6(7.2)	3.14(3.14)	31/7	4.3(4.3)
Hickson & Welch (I)	42.5(48.7)	2.2(4.4)	6.0(11.0)	2.5(2.5)	28/8	—(7.5)
Leigh Int (F)	21.2(21.2)	1.15(1.10)	11.6(10.6)	3.8(3.37)	—	5.6(5.0)
Morgan Crucible (‡)	29.13(32.5)	0.5(3.3)	0.4(4.8)	—(—)	—	—(7.5)
Northern Foods (I)	362(257)	17.19(14.8)	7.3(6.14)	1.8(1.6)	28/8	—(3.7)
J Smart (I)	—(—)	1.4†(1.39†)	—(—)	1.0(0.86)	13/7	3.6†(—)
Utd Electronics (F)	9.23(7.17)	0.86(0.74)	6.0(7.8)	1(—)	31/7	1.57(—)
Whittington (F)	1.4(1.38)	0.12(0.18)	8.37(10.03)	2.1(2.1)	—	3.5(3.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *=Adjusted for scrip. †=Forecast for year ‡=First quarter. §=Net income.

Briefly

Trans-Oceanic Trust: Pretax profit for six months to April 30, £709,500 (£762,000) net. Assets applicable to ordinary capital £40.57m (£27.83m), and value per share 337.9p (231.8p). Interim of 2.5p (same). A two-for-one script issue proposed.

Ladbroke Group: Mr Cyril Stein chairman, told annual meeting that group profits to date are satisfactory and he was confident of another good year. Shareholders have approved the formation of a new property organization in the United States and the arrangements with Mr Kurk Kilstock and his family interests.

London and Continental Advertising Holdings: Mr John Golfar, chairman, told annual meeting that company was heading for another record year's profit. Group has made a good start to year with business substantially in excess of budget.

Sunderland and South Shields Water Co.: Offer for sale by tender of £5.5m 8 per cent redeemable preference stock, 1987. Minimum price of the issue £98 per £100 stock. Applications received for about £108,000 of stock and underwriters will be required to take up calance.

Astra Fireworks: Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation is financing purchase of Astra Fireworks and Andrews and Page for £806,000. Purchaser is Haloberry, a new company financed by ICFC and the new directors and management of Astra and Andrews and Page.

Bula Resources: Allied Irish Investment Bank says that applications for 79.3m shares were received in respect of the 12m ordinary shares offered for sale. This represents a subscription of 6.6 times the shares available.

Bremar Trust has completed arrangements with Mr R J Frost to participate in his petrol retailing business carried on through Look service stations. Look is principally engaged in the acquiation, development and operation of self service petrol stations.

Electronic Rentals advances

By Peter Wainwright

Electronic Rentals, one of the big four television rental groups and known in the High Streets as Visionhire, did a bit better than most observers expected in the year to March 31. It reported pretax profits of £14.74m against £12.22m and outside estimates of £14.5m. Turnover rose from £172.36m to £181.57m.

At the halfway stage profits were £7.4m and shareholders were told of the impact of high interest rates, recession, and problems in camping and leisure. Redundancy costs were being written off against profits.

In the event, pretax profits were held back by a rise in depreciation of £2.6m to £46.2m and a modest advance in interest of £400,000to £13.1m, reflecting huge borrowings. Before striking pretax profits the group deducted only £78,000 against £3.73m in "exceptional" items and after tax, provisions of £3m against nothing were made against "future disposal and closure loss".

The excetpional items represented the cost of streamlining acquisitions in Australia and South Africa of television rental assets. The after-tax provisions reflected losses that are expected to rise on disposing or closing Europleasure, and Dudes UK, both in leisure and industrial clothing. The two companies have lost money for years.

A divisional analysis shows that of profits before interest, exceptionals and tax of £27.9m (against £28.6m) United Kingdom rental profits were £24.4m against £23.9m. The net cash flow, comprising profits after tax, minorities and depreciation, rose slightly from £52.3m to £56.9m.

Electronic Rentals is a reasonably direct way into the renting of television sets and video recorders. Philips NV, the Dutch electrical giant, has around a third of the shares and the hope is that Electronic will catch up competitors who rented out Japanese video recorders before Philips had their own model on the market. This autumn also sees the launc hof Philips's video disc system.

The shares hardened 2p to 114p yesterday.

Leigh lifts dividend despite tough trading

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Leigh Interests, the Black Country waste disposal expert which is hoping to offset the impact of the recession by setting up worker co-operatives to take domestic waste disposal out of the hands of local authorities, reported a slight rise in profits from £1.10m to £1.15m in the year to March 31.

Group sales were unchanged at £21.2m, although both sales and profits fell during the second half. Second-half profits eased from £662,000 to £540,000 reflecting both initial losses with acquisitions and the deepening recession from last October onwards.

Mrs Joan Agar, chairman, said that results for the first two months of this year were well down, and profits for the first six months of the year could well be lower. Despite the difficult trading climate, Leigh has still raised the final dividend from 4.81p gross to 5.43p, leaving the annual payment up by 12.6 per cent to 8.04p.

Leigh said that, following last year's £2.5m issue of convertible loan stock, it has been able to continue with its capital spending programme, which totalled £5.44m last year, and keep a strong balance sheet. Year-end bank borrowings were virtually unchanged at £1.25m.

Acquisitions during 1980-81 depressed group profits by about £100,000 but following rationalization and reorganization these businesses are now trading profitably.

RTZ increases stake in Tunnel Holdings to 9 pc

Rio Tinto-Zinc yesterday increased its stake in Tunnel Holdings to 8.9 per cent of the "B" shares, giving it 6.3 per cent of the equity vote. A spokesman reiterated RTZ's earlier statement that it has no plans to make a counter-bid for Tunnel, which is fighting a cash-and-paper offer now worth 476p, or 435p a share —? cash bid, from rival cement manufacturer Thomas W. Ward.

RTZ's investment in Tunnel has angered Ward's board, which claims RTZ is trying to frustrate the offer for its own commercial reasons. But RTZ's intervention was welcomed earlier this wtek by Mr Derek Birkin, chairman of Tunnel, as support for Tunnel's efforts to board insists this does not recognize the company's true value and potential.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Flight Refuelling seeks £5m for US takeover

By Catherine Gunn

Aircraft equipment manufacturer Flight Refuelling is to raise £5.15m in a one-for-six rights issue at 225p a share to pay for a United States acquisition. The shares dropped 8p to 327½p yesterday morning after the news.

Flight Refuelling announced its plan to buy Colorado aircraft components group Stanley Aviation in April. By then it had built up a 44.3 per cent stake in the quoted United States company, at $24 a share, the price now on offer to the rest of Stanley's shareholders. The total consideration for Stanley's capital is $10.6m — about £5.5m at yesterday's exchange rate, of which about £2.5m has already been paid out of the existing share stake.

Stanley shareholders will meet in the first week of July Flight Refuelling's shareholders have an extraordinary general meeting for the same purpose on June 22. Dealings in the rights issue shares should start the next day.



Mr Michael Cobham, chairman of Flight Refuelling.

Mr Michael Cobham, chairman of Flight Refuelling, expects the takeover to be effective from mid-Juy.

Stanley's profits will be consolidated from then on, and until then will be shown as associated company profits. It made $1.5m in the year to June 30, 1980.

At Flight Refuelling, trading in the first four months of this year, to December 31, has been slightly better than a year ago, although conditions remain depressed. The board intends to recommend a total dividend of not less than 5.36p gross for the year, on the increased, post-rights issue, capital. This reflects the historic dividend cover, Mr Cobham said, and is not an indication of this year's likely profit.

Directors control roughly 26 per cent of Flight Refuelling. Overseas company Falaise Investments now has 10 per cent of the shares.

United Ceramic for USM

At F. Miller (Textiles) Mr P. Miller, chairman, says in his annual statement that growth in turnover last year was rather small but the potential for the future, given the right economic conditions, was certainly far greater. He considered the volume of the plant at full production could be nearly doubled, with profitability most certainly keeping pace.

United Ceramic Distributors has issued a prospectus in connexion with the placing by certain of its shareholders of 415,600 existing ordinary shares at 80p. This represents some 17 per cent of its ordinary capital. Application has been made to the Stock Exchange for the shares to be dealt in on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Caparo sells stake in Barrow

Barrow Hepburn Group has been informed that Caparo group has sold its remaining holding of 2.74m shares. Since Caparo now owns no odinary share in BHG, Mr Swraj Paul, chairman of Caparo, has resigned as a director of BHG.

Some 2.2.m shares in BHG are now owned by the M and G Recovery Fund and London Trust Co has £5.4m (22.68 per cent).

Airflow loss for year

Airflow Streamlines has made a loss of £282,000 for the year to February 28, against a pretax profit of £1.14m. Turnover went down from £21.6m to £18.6m.

The board says that both divisions continue to be affected by the current recession particularly the production section of the manufacturing division.

The board remains confident that progress will be resumed when the economy recovers from recession.

Guthrie holds payout despite downturn

Depressed commodity prices and losses in its British carpet interests caused 1980 pretax profits as Guthrie Corporation, the trading and plantation group, to fall by £3.5m to £24m. The final dividend was maintained at 30p gross, making 42.9p gross for the whole year, also the same. Earnings per share were 27.3p against 38.5p.

But for the first time in several years the corporation is striking an optimistic note. Mr Ian Coates, the joint managing director, said that the main weight off management's mind was the reorganization of the Scottish carpet interests, which had been consistent loss makers. Pretax profits were struck after they lost £3m last year.

At a reorganization cost of £6m, taken below the line and leading to a deficit in retained earnings, the carpet operations have been merged with Stoddard Holdings, a separate, publicly quoted Scottish carpet maker. Guthrie has 40 per cent of the reorganized company.

Guthrie is also discussing the sale of its minority interests in various Malaysian trading companies held by Guthrie Berhad, a Singapore registered company. Under Malaysian law foreigners cannot control trading companies, and Guthrie's stake in companies it previously ran has been reduced to 30 per cent.

But plantations remain the core of the business. Guthrie Ropel, which owns 56,800 planted acres, or roughly a third of the corporation's plantation land in Malaysia, saw pretax profits fall from M$28.9m to M$24.6m.

Lower palm oil prices were the main reason for the profits decline, while rubber prices remained fairly steady. During the second half of last year palm oil touched M$800 a tonne, its lowest level since 1976. But the average price received by Kumpulan Guthrie, the marketing company, was M$900 a tonne.

Lloyds Bank has 59% of Lloyds and Scottish

Lloyds Bank announced yesterday that it now owns 59.17 per cent of Lloyds and Scottish, Britain's largest independent hire purchase group for which it launched a bid costing £145m in March.

On the day the takeover was announced, Lloyds Bank already held a 39.26 per cent stake, and launched a swift stock market operation to buy 10.95 per cent more. Together with a 0.3 per cent stake held by an associate, Lloyds Bank had control of the group by the afternoon.

Acceptances for its offer came in from holders of 10.64m shares representing 8.96 per cent of the equity. These acceptances give Lloyds Bank an acceptance level of 85.12 per cent of the shares they needed to secure.

But still outstanding is the 39.26 per cent held by Royal Bank of Scotland. It is currently the subject of a takeover bid from Standard and Chartered being investigated by the Monopolies Commission.

It has told Lloyds Bank that it intends to defer any action regarding its holding until the Monopolies Commission has reported and the Government has made its recommendations.

If the merger is permitted, Royal Bank of Scotland will accept the Lloyds offer in loan stock.

"In any other situation, RBS will decide whether or not to accept similar terms in the light of circumstances then prevailing", Lloyds says.

British Dredging closures

British Dredging, the Cardiff-based group whose chairman Mr Fane Vernon has said he is looking for a considerable profits increase this year, has told shareholders that it intends to close two operations with the loss of 65 jobs.

Mr Vernon told the group's annual meeting that it was board policy to eliminate unacceptable loss-makers and that it has decided to close or dispose of Channel Construction, Avonmouth, and its associate company, Channel Joinery.

He said the board saw little prospects for recovery of these companies to a profitable future. He added that trading in the first four months of this year is not as good as expected, but just ahead of budget.

Mr Vernon said later that closure costs would be well within a general reserve of £310,000. He has had approaches to buy the company, but was not optimistic that it would come to anything.

Likely closure costs are in the region of £150,000.

Hickson and Welch tumbles

Sizable losses in part of its chemical division have halved the pre-tax profits of Hickson and Welch Holdings, the West Yorkshire-based group whose interests include building materials and timber preservation.

At £2.2m before tax, group profits for the six months to the end of March are barely changed from the second half of last year. But the contributions from its various divisions have changed dramatically.

A substantial loss at its largest chemical producer, Hickson & Welch Ltd, of Castleford, and a sizable loss at James Robinson & Co mean the overall contributions from chemicals dropped from 60 per cent to 40 per cent.

Marginal improvements from the timber business, which effectively doubled its share of group profits to 50 per cent, and a slight improvement from the building materials side prevented profits from sliding still further. The group do not expect full-year profits to match last year's £6.8m.

Hickson has cut its capital spending programme from a likely £7m to £4m of which £2.8m will be spent in the UK.

The workforce in chemicals is also being cut by 10 per cent from 1,200. Although some are early retirements, redundancy payments in the first half came to £128,000. For the full year, Hickson expects total payments to reach £250,000

Turnover for the opening half dropped from £48.7m to £42.5m. Trading profits came down from £4.9m to £2.4m. After closure costs and a lower interest charge—Hickson has kept borrowings at last September's level—profits fell to £1.93m.

Culter Guard loss tops £1m

As expected, Fife paper manufacturer Culter Guard Bridge made a pretax loss in the year to March 31 of £1.36m, against a profit the previous year of £337,000 that was itself a steep decline from the £787,000 made in 1978-79.

There is no dividend for the year. Trading losses from continuing operations were £347,000 against a profit a year earlier of £645,000. Losses on discontinued operations were £696,000 against profits of just £19,000.

Extraordinary debits are £2.11m, and there is a £1.69m tax credit. Group interest costs declined from £327,000 to £316,000.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Crdts	12%
C. Hoare & Co	*12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9%, up to £50,000 9½%, over £50,000 10¼%.

Whittington down after strike

Chesterfield-based Whittington Engineering, which makes conveyors and mechanical handling equipment for the British market, saw its pretax profits fall from £184,000 to £127,000. This reflects difficult trading conditions, and a strike, during its year to March 31, 1981. But the dividend has been maintained at 5p gross.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
76	39	Airsprung Group	71	—	4.7	6.6	11.3	15.6
52	21	Armitage & Rhodes	45	−1	1.4	2.9	19.8	45.7
200	92½	Bardon Hill	200	—	9.7	4.9	7.5	12.8
104	88	Deborah Services	104	—	5.5	5.3	5.1	9.8
126	88	Frank Horsell	104	—	6.4	6.2	3.3	6.0
110	39	Frederick Parker	60	—	1.7	2.8	26.1	—
110	64	George Blair	64	—	3.1	4.8	—	—
110	59	Jackson Group	106	—	6.9	6.5	4.0	8.2
129	103	James Burrough	129	—	7.9	6.1	10.6	10.6
334	244	Robert Jenkins	317	−1	31.3	9.9	—	—
55	50	Scruttons "A"	55	—	5.3	9.6	4.0	4.0
224	202	Torday Limited	202	—	15.1	7.5	7.8	13.4
23	8	Twinlock Ord	15	—	—	—	—	—
23	8	Twinlock 15% ULS	78	+1	15.0	19.2	—	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	42	−1	3.0	7.1	6.5	10.2
103	81	Walter Alexander	101	—	5.7	5.6	5.6	8.9
263	181	W. S. Yeates	255	—	13.1	5.1	4.8	9.8

Guthrie Corporation



Chairman's Statement by Mr. Mark Gent, OBE

Preliminary results for year to 31 December 1980	1980 £000	1979 £000
Operating Profit:–		
South East Asia	21,680	25,940
North America	5,568	5,883
Europe	(220)	295
Australia	660	421
Africa	1,566	278
	29,254	32,817
Interest	5,240	5,313
Profit before taxation	24,014	27,504
Assets attributable to ordinary shareholders	201,008	207,341
Earnings per ordinary share	27.3p	38.5p

Highlights

1980 was a watershed in the history of the Corporation.

Among the highlights were:–

– The purchase from Dunlop of Angus Fire Armour which, together with the group's existing interests in this field, makes the Corporation one of the world's largest fire protection organisations, with manufacturing activities in all five continents.

– The resolution of the Corporation's major problem in the last decade, with the merger of its Scottish carpet interests into Stoddard Holdings Limited.

– The closure of a number of other loss-making activities in the United Kingdom.

– The decision to strengthen the agronomic profit base by extending plantation operations outside Malaysia, initially in Mindanao in the Philippines and Hainan in the People's Republic of China.

– The sale by Sime Darby of their entire holding in the equity of Guthrie, ending two years of uncertainty.

Although the cost of closures and of the transfer of the Scottish carpet assets has been very heavy, the alternative was to continue to carry debilitating losses with a considerable commitment of management time.

Results

Profit before taxation was £24.0 million in 1980, compared with £27.5 million in 1979.

For the second year running, the impact of the strength of sterling at 31 December, the date of translation of profits made in overseas territories, has been dramatic.

Had the pre-tax profits for 1980 been translated at rates ruling at 31 December 1979, they would have been approximately £26 million. In a year of recession in the industrialised world, and with substantial changes in the group's structure taking place, this may be considered to be generally satisfactory.

The Scottish carpet interests which have been merged with Stoddard Holdings, together with those operations terminated during the year or in the early part of 1981, made a loss of £3.0 million. The profit before taxation of £24.0 million is struck after deducting this loss.

Extraordinary losses, relating to the transfer of the Scottish carpet businesses and to the termination of other operations, amounted to £6.0 million.

Dividend

An interim dividend of 9p per share was paid on 1 April 1981.

The Board's recommendation is that the final dividend should be 21p per share, making a total dividend of 30p per share *(1979: 30p)*. Although this would not be fully justified when considered against the results of 1980 alone, it reflects the Board's confidence in the future prospects of the Corporation.

Taxation

The overall taxation charge includes £2.7 million of Advance Corporation Tax. The major changes which have taken place in the industrial and commercial base of the group's UK operations should lead to a progressive diminution in the cost to shareholders of this punitive tax on companies, which, like the Corporation, are primarily invested overseas.

Current Cost Accounting

A very high proportion of the Corporation's consolidated assets and profits are located and earned outside the UK. To a significant extent appropriate local indices for cost inflation are not available as a basis for the adjustments required to produce CCA figures. Your Board has concluded that figures based on arbitrary assumptions would not have any real meaning and would be misleading. Moreover there are also circumstances in certain territories where the publication of CCA figures could operate against the interests of shareholders.

In consequence, CCA figures have not been published with the preliminary results for 1980 and will not be included as a supplement to the annual accounts.

Your Board's decision was reached after careful consideration of all the issues involved and after extensive discussions with institutional investors, the Corporation's principal bankers, the Corporation's auditors, Deloitte Haskins & Sells, and other advisers.

Had it been feasible to produce CCA figures, the probable effect would have been a reduction in consolidated profit before taxation but an increase in consolidated shareholders' funds.

Shareholders

Sime Darby's entire shareholding in the Corporation was transferred on 15 December 1980, principally to Permodalan Nasional Berhad (National Equity Corporation), incorporated in Malaysia, which has now become the single largest shareholder with approximately 25% of the issued ordinary shares.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all shareholders, large and small, who have continued to support the Corporation, particularly in recent years when its independence has been threatened.

Plantations

In the light of a substantial reduction in the price of palm oil in the second half of the year – at one stage it had fallen from a peak of over M$1,000 per tonne to under M$800 per tonne, the lowest level since 1976 – the results for the plantation activities were good.

As has previously been pointed out, the price of palm oil has a considerable impact on profitability in the plantation sector. The average price achieved by Kumpulan Guthrie, well over M$900 per tonne, reflects considerable credit on the marketing organisation.

Total oil palm crops again increased, by more than 10%, with higher mature acreage primarily responsible.

The price of rubber remained stable throughout 1980, but output was somewhat lower as acreages planted to rubber were reduced.

Guthrie Ropel owns 56,800 planted acres, about one-third of the Corporation's total interests in plantation land in Malaysia. In accordance with the policy agreed with the Malaysian Government, 40% of Guthrie Ropel is owned by local investors. Reflecting the rather lower palm oil price achieved in 1980, Guthrie Ropel reported a reduction in profit before taxation from M$28.9 million in 1979 to M$24.6 million in 1980.

During 1980, Guthrie Ropel announced a joint venture with the Negri Sembilan Development Corporation to develop a 5,000 acre rubber estate at Kuala Pilah. Guthrie will be responsible for management of the estate. This is the group's first significant development of new rubber land for some time and reflects confidence in the future of natural rubber.

Although the escalation in the value of estate land in Malaysia has continued, the Board does not consider it desirable or economic to have an annual revaluation, except in circumstances where to do otherwise would be detrimental to shareholders' interests. The values included in the balance sheet are those at 31 December 1979.

My statement last year announced a joint venture in the Philippines, in partnership with the National Development Company of the Philippines, to develop 20,000 acres of oil palms at Agusan in Mindanao. By the end of 1981, just eighteen months later, well over 4,000 acres will have been planted. We are fortunate to enjoy a close and harmonious working relationship with the Government and our partners.

In October 1980 we entered into a joint venture agreement with the Overseas Chinese Enterprise Corporation and Singapore investment interests to develop 20,000 acres of oil palms on Hainan Island. The project is the first of its kind in the People's Republic of China.

The reputation of Guthrie International Plantation Services continues to grow. Its consultancy activities and management services are now in demand around the world, both for plantation development and turnkey processing facilities.

These activities have been extended by the acquisition of a majority stake in Minster Agriculture Limited, whose expertise is in the evaluation and project management of a complete range of agricultural and horticultural developments world-wide. In recent years Minster has built up a considerable reputation for its professional approach to project analysis and management. We are pleased, therefore, to have had the opportunity to broaden the scope of our activities in this sector.

The group, which has experience in fifty territories, now has the ability to advise on and manage a total range of agronomic development projects.

The new developments which are described above, and other projects under investigation, are designed to counterbalance the effect on plantation profits of the progressive programme of Malaysianisation agreed with the Government in Kuala Lumpur. During the period to 1990 the Corporation's participation will be reduced to 60%. The group's strategic policy is, as a minimum, to maintain profits from agronomy, its area of greatest expertise, by extending into other territories and related activities.

Guthrie Berhad

Guthrie Berhad increased profit before taxation from S$10.7 million in 1979 to S$11.1 million in 1980.

Results were affected to some extent by the steady drift away from parity of the Singapore dollar and the Malaysian ringgit, which led to exchange losses, and by higher interest costs.

The company has been undergoing major changes, particularly in Malaysia, as associates not directly managed by Guthrie Berhad replace wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Discussions have begun recently which could materially affect the future development of Guthrie Berhad and its relationship to the Corporation.

United States

The results of the Ajax group were again highly satisfactory.

While the basic business, induction furnaces – in which it is a world leader – held its own, excellent performances by some of the lesser-known subsidiaries contributed substantially. Lectrodryer, which manufactures dessicant dryers, and Control Transformer, a specialist transformer manufacturer, both had a very good year indeed.

The Ajax furnace manufacturing subsidiaries in Canada and the UK also contributed higher profits.

Canada

With the exception of Trench Electric, which continues to improve its reputation and profitability, the second half of the year was very difficult for the Canadian companies.

Highway Trailers, in common with the trailer industry as a whole, experienced a dramatic fall-off in activity.

The auto-parts industry, which represents a substantial part of the sales of Butler Stampings and Butler Polymet, also deteriorated as the year progressed.

Angus Fire Armour

Shareholders have been aware of the Corporation's need for a substantial tranche of UK profits if the worst depredations of unrelieved ACT were to be avoided. However, it has been apparent that existing activities in the UK were not satisfactory for the achievement of such an objective and that an alternative base was necessary.

Guthrie's operations in fire protection overseas – in Africa, the Far East and Australia – manufacturing fire hose and fire extinguishers and selling a range of Angus products, have been successful and expanding.

The Corporation consequently offered to purchase Angus Fire Armour from Dunlop and agreement was reached at the end of November 1980.

The Corporation now owns one of the world's largest fire protection businesses with sales approaching £50 million, having an established range of products in *fire engines, fire hose, fire extinguishers, foam* and foam equipment and in specialised fixed fire protection equipment for the oil and petro-chemical industries.

Europe

Carpets

In December 1980 an agreement was reached for the Scottish carpet interests of the Corporation – Templeton and Kingsmead – to be merged into the publicly-quoted Stoddard Holdings.

In consequence, Guthrie holds 39.4% of the total increased equity of Stoddard (5.22 million non-voting 'A' ordinary shares) and in addition subscribed in 1981 in cash at par for £1.5 million 7% net second cumulative preference shares.

The background is well-known. The deterioration in market conditions within the industry was severe and threatened the future of many carpet manufacturers.

A joint study was undertaken with Stoddards and it was agreed that a merger of activities would be in the best interests of both groups of employees and shareholders, that it would result in a carpet manufacturer with a strong financial base and excellent management to combat the difficult trading conditions and that it would make a substantial contribution towards stabilisation of the eroding carpet industry.

The net assets of Stoddard Holdings following the merger were £14.7 million, of which £5.8 million was attributable to assets transferred by the Corporation.

Although the period of transfer and rationalisation of assets will reflect the problems of dislocation in a continuing climate of difficult trading conditions, integration has gone well and great credit is due to all concerned. I am confident that an unhappy chapter in the Corporation's recent history has ended and that a new and potentially successful grouping has been achieved.

The Corporation continues to hold 100% of the equity of Kidderminster-based Woodward Grosvenor, a specialist manufacturer of carpets, which would not easily have fitted into the new Stoddard grouping.

The extraordinary loss in the Corporation's accounts, reflecting redundancy and closure costs, has been heavy. I believe that there are few shareholders who will not consider such a one-off cost to be better than the likely continuation of trading losses, with their concomitant effect on ACT, and the diversion of management time which loss-makers inevitably create.

Trading

The UK trading businesses had a mixed year. The integration of Guthrie Booker Merchants International has progressed smoothly and the company had a successful 1980.

By contrast, the textile trading activities suffered from a dramatic decline in demand as the recession devastated the textile industry and we have substantially withdrawn from this business. Losses on termination have been fully provided in the 1980 accounts.

Plastics and Textiles

Following the closure of Ebonite Container and Ratcliffe Brothers, the plastics and textiles operations now comprise a smaller and more compact unit. On the whole it performed satisfactorily in a difficult year.

Australia

Following the outright rejection by the Australian government of the Industries Assistance Commission report, which proposed for the textile industry increased quotas and a reduction in import tariffs, Palm Beach Towel has a more stable commercial basis on which to plan. It has been the mainstay of profitability for the Corporation's Australian activities in recent years and its success in 1980 has improved results overall.

Most other operations performed well, in particular Hose Makers, the group's Australian fire hose manufacturing company, but the world-wide problems of the carpet industry impacted on Tascot Templeton, which was not profitable in 1980.

Africa

The success of the group's interests in Zimbabwe, in its first year of independence, is encouraging. Much of the increase in operating profit in Africa derived from Zimbabwe.

There have been a number of investment opportunities in the country and, where appropriate, they have been taken up. In particular, in July 1980 we acquired 18.3% of the shares of Hunyani Holdings Ltd. This has already proved a rewarding investment.

In the circumstances of an improvement in the Nigerian economy in 1980, following the return to civilian rule, the results for Guthrie (Nigeria) were disappointing.

The changed conditions in the Gulf area, following the Iran-Iraq war, resulted in an agreement for the termination of our joint venture in Dubai.

Staff

Our thanks are again due to our staff for their excellent performance in the difficult economic conditions of 1980.

Future Prospects

Although the economic recession in the UK appears to have flattened, conditions world-wide remain uncertain with the continuation of high interest rates in many countries and exchange rate fluctuations. Against this background the year has begun satisfactorily for the Corporation.

The elimination of loss makers, the merger of our Scottish carpet business with Stoddards and the acquisition of Angus will result in a very substantial turn round in the UK performance. For the first time in many years this region will be a material contributor to the operating profit of the group. Angus has started the year well and we are very pleased with the opportunities available internationally following this acquisition.

In North America the economies of Canada and the United States continue to be depressed, affecting in particular those businesses which are consumer-orientated. However, the two key Guthrie companies in this region – Ajax Magnethermic in the US and Trench Electric in Canada – both operating in the energy-related, high technology sectors of industry, have very substantial forward order books and can be expected to perform particularly well in 1981.

Most of the Corporation's African and Australian interests are also improving on their 1980 performances and can be expected to make a greater contribution this year.

The operating companies, which comprise the Corporation, are likely to have a good year overall, but the inconsistency in exchange rate movements makes predictions about the aggregate sterling value of their profits difficult to evaluate at this stage.

However, unless there is a dramatic change in the economic circumstances affecting the Corporation's key activities, 1981 should show a substantial improvement.

The Annual Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on 12 June.
The Annual General Meeting will be held in London on 8 July 1981.

The Guthrie Corporation Limited, 120 Fenchurch St., London EC3M 5AA

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was firm.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £856.50-857.00 a metric ton; three months, £882-82.50. Sales, 6,700. Cash cathodes, £851-53, three months, £871-73. Sales, 1,100 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £853.50-855.00; three months, £877.50-878.00. Settlement, £853.50. Sales, 16,350 tons. Cash cathodes, £847-48; three months, £867.50-868.00. Settlement, £848. Sales, 900 tons.
TIN was firm.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6270-80 a tonne; three months £6410-15. Sales, 555 tonnes. High grade, cash £6270-80; three months £6410-15. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £6230-40; three months £6360-65. Settlement, £6240. Sales, 525 tonnes. High grade, cash £6250-60; three months, £6360-65. Settlement, £6260. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M29.40 a picul.
LEAD was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £348.50-49.50 per tonne; three months £357.50-58.00. Sales, 9,200 tonnes. Morning—Cash £352.50-355.00; three months £361-61.50. Settlement £353. Sales, 15,475 tonnes.
ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £406.50-407.50 per tonne; three months £415.50-416.00. Sales, 5,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £402.50-403.00; three months £411.50-412.50. Settlement, £403. Sales, 5,225 tonnes.
PLATINUM was at £225.35 ($437) a troy ounce.
SILVER was steadier.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 513.20p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1003); three months 528.20p (1046.60c); six months, 545.30p (1087.10c); one year 580.55p (1170.10c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash 514.5-516.0p; three months 529.5-530.0p. Sales, 35 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 509.5-510.5p; three months, 525-25.2p. Settlement, 510.5p. Sales, 86 lots.
ALUMINIUM was firm.—Afternoon.—Cash, £638.50-39.50 per tonne; three months £658.50-659.00. Sales, 5,675 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £631-31.50; three months £651-51.50. Settlement, £631.50. Sales, 7,078 tonnes.
NICKLE was firmer.—Afternoon.—Cash £3135-40 per tonne; three months £3190-95. Sales, 180 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £3110-20; three months £3165-70. Settlement, £3120. Sales, 282 tonnes.
RUBBER was hesitant (pence per kilo): July, 61.60-61.70; Aug, 62.70-62.80; July-Sept, 62.80-62.90; Oct-Dec, 65.70-65.80; Jan-Mar, 68.60-68.70; April-June, 71.50-71.70; July-Sept, 74.40-74.50; Oct-Dec, 77.50-77.60; Jan-Mar, 80.40-80.50. Sales, five at five tonnes; 896 at 15 tonnes.
RUBBER PHYSICALS.—Spot, 60.00-61.50. Cifs: July, 62.00-63.00; Aug, 62.75-63.75.
COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): July, 866-869; Sept, 877-880; Nov, 871-875; Jan, 870-873; March, 850-876; May, 870-886; July, 860-900. Sales: 4,001 lots including 45 options. ARABICAS (officials at 1645).—June, 136-141; Aug, 128-137; Oct, 126-137; Dec, 126-136; Feb, 124.75-145; April, 134.85-143.35; June, 120-143. Sales: two lots.
COCOA was steady (£ per metric ton).—July, 841-843; Sept, 866-867; Dec, 901-902; March, 931-932; May, 950-952; July, 970-972; Sept, 988-989. Sales: 3,329 lots including five options. ICCO prices: daily (June 3) 77.81c; indicator prices (June 4): 5-day average 80.69c (US cents per lb).
SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £10 lower at £210; the "whites" price was £5 lower at £230. Futures (£ per tonne): Aug, 209.25-209.40; Oct, 210.30-210.50; Jan, 211.15-211.20; March, 212.50-212.80; May, 213.25-213.50; Aug, 213.75-214.00; Oct, 214.25-214.75. Sales: 10,080 lots. Steady. ISA prices (June 3): daily 17.33c; 15-day average 15.89c.
SOYABEAN MEAL easier (£ per tonne).—June, 131.60-133.00; Aug, 131.90-132.00; Oct, 134.10-134.50; Dec, 136.20-136.50; Feb, 137.80-138.50; Feb, 137.80-138.60; April, 138-140; June 138-143. Sales, 127 lots.
WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds No 2 contract (cents per kilo): Aug, 390 buyer; Oct, 388-390; Dec, 390-391; Jan, 392-394; March, 395-402; May, 406-410; Aug, 414-420; Oct, 415-420; Dec, 415-425. Sales: 206 lots. Very steady.
GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring unquoted. US dark northern spring No 3, 14 per cent: June £112.75; July, £112.25; Aug, £113.50 quoted. Trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter 13½ per cent: June £112.25; July £112; Aug, £112.25 trans-shipment east coast quoted. EEC unquoted. English feed fob: June £116; Sept, £105.50; Oct, £107.50; Oct-Dec, £109 east coast sellers.
MAIZE.—French: June, £126.75 trans-shipment east coast seller. South African white unquoted. South African yellow: June-July, £90 seller.
BARLEY.—English feed fob: June, £108; Aug, £96.75; Sept, £98; Oct-Dec, £102.75; Jan-March, £108.50 east coast sellers. All cif UK unless stated.
London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin.—BARLEY was barely steady: Sept, £94.90; Nov, £98.60; Jan, £103.10; March, £105.60; May, £108.90. Sales: 294 lots. WHEAT was barely steady: July, £116; Sept, £100.95; Nov, £104.50; Jan, £108.45; March, £112.05; May, £115.60. Sales: 189 lots.
Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£111.90	£100.00
S. West	—	—	—
W. Midlands	—	£113.30	£100.00
N. West	£116.80	£114.50	£103.60

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on June 4: GB Cattle, 96.33p per kglw (−0.07); UK Sheep, 186.63p per kgestdcw (−13.44); GB Pigs, 77.66p per kglw (+1.98). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 13.1 per cent, average price 98.76p (−0.33); Sheep numbers up 27.6 per cent, average price 188.38p (−15.01); Pig numbers up 4.8 per cent, average price 77.66p (+1.98). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 19.9 per cent, average price 97.05p (+0.26); Sheep numbers up 22.7 per cent, average price 169.99p (−5.87).
INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE.—June, $268.50-69.00; July, $269.25-69.50; Aug, $273.50-74.00; Sept, $279-79.25; Oct, $283.50-83.75; Nov, $288.50-89.00; Dec, $293.50-93.75; Jan, $298-98.25; Feb, $302.50-04.00. Sales: 1,293 lots of 100 tonnes each.
POTATOES (Gafta).—Nov, £58.70; Feb, £67.90; April, £75.20. Sales: 5,151 lots of 40 tonnes each.

More world trade in wheat expected

The International Wheat Council (IWC) has increased its estimate of world trade in wheat and wheat flour in 1981-82 (July-June) to 90m to 95m tonnes from an end of April estimate of 89m to 94m tonnes.

In its monthly market report the IWC left unchanged its estimate of 1981-82 world wheat production in the range of 460m to 475m tonnes.

The 1980-81 production estimate was reduced by 3m tonnes to 444m tonnes, reflecting the official Chinese estimate of a 54m tonne crop.

The 1980-81 world trade estimate is left unchanged at 93m tonnes although exports by Argentina are estimated lower while those from the EEC and the United States are higher.

Breedon agrees land sale

Breedon and Cloud Hill Lime Works has agreed to sell 349.70 acres of agricultural land (let for £8,774 per annum) for £350,000 payable in cash on completion, which is expected to take place on June 5.

This land was purchased in 1974 together with other land which has been retained

Discount market

Very easy conditions in overnight money contrasted with a sharp rise in period rates that were directly reflecting nervousness generated by a tumbling pound.

Rates mostly opened in the range of 10¼-½ but the decline came on swiftly and balances were eventually picked up as cheaply as 11 per cent.

Foreign exchange report

Sterling was hit by another wave of selling and tumbled more than 7½ cents against a strong dollar on foreign exchanges yesterday. The pound closed at $1.9410 compared with $2.0175 overnight, after touching 1.9340 at one point.

The effective exchange rate index fell 2.1 to 94.8, after 74.7 at midday, representing an overall sterling depreciation this week of over 4 per cent, and is sterling's lowest level against the dollar since December, 1978.

High United States interest rates, the prospect of a cut in Norteh Sea oil prices and a general lack of confidence in the United Kingdom economy all combined to drag the pound down.

Higher Eurodollar rates were again responsible for the dollar making further strong progress against continentals. German marks fell from 2.3595 to 2.4110, Swiss francs declined from 2.0902 to 2.1415, and French francs weakened from 5.5862 to 5.6725.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) June 4	Market rates (close) June 4	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.9340-9800	$1.9400-9420	0.98-1.08c disc	2.58-2.68c disc
Montreal	$2.3420-3900	$2.3490-3510	1.25-1.35c disc	3.60-3.75c disc
Amsterdam	5.16-24fl	5.20½-22½fl	⅝ prem-⅜c disc	1⅞-⅜c prem
Brussels	75.70-76.80f	76.30-45f	25-35c disc	70-80c disc
Copenhagen	14.64-83k	14.75-77k	320-460ore disc	1435-1590ore disc
Dublin	1.2725-2900p	1.2795-2815p	31-45p disc	95-115p disc
Frankfurt	4.64-71m	4.68-69m	¼ prem-¼pf disc	¼ prem-¼pf disc
Lisbon	122.00-123.50e	122.40-70e	60-130c disc	130-300c disc
Madrid	184.00-186.75p	184.80-185.10p	130-160c disc	355-395c disc
Milan	2308-46lr	2343½-45½lr	17½-19½lr disc	52½-55½lr disc
Oslo	11.40-55k	11.49-51k	40-160ore disc	80-220ore disc
Paris	10.94-11.12f	11.02-04f	18-20c disc	36½-38½c disc
Stockholm	9.85-97k	9.86½-88½k	255-335ore disc	730-825ore disc
Tokyo	437-45y	439-41y	210-165y prem	570-515y prem
Vienna	32.55-33.30sch	32.85-90sch	0.5gro prem-par	10gro prem-par
Zurich	4.11-18f	4.15½-16½f	1⅛-⅛c prem	2⅞-1⅞c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 2.1 at 94.8.

Other Markets

Australia	1.7175-1.7350
Bahrein	.734-.737
Finland	8.5670-8.6070
Greece	112.15-114.15
Hongkong	10.673-10.803
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	.5445-.5475
Malaysia	4.5925-4.6225
Mexico	46.85-48.05
New Zealand	226.80-228.80
Saudi Arabia	6.6055-6.6355
Singapore	4.2020-4.2320
South Africa	1.6785-1.6935

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	94.8	−29.9
US dollar	109.2	+3.1
Canadian dollar	87.4	−17.7
Schilling	111.2	+22.2
Belgian franc	105.5	+8.9
Danish kroner	85.4	−11.8
Deutsche mark	116.2	+37.4
Swiss franc	132.2	+77.3
Guilder	108.0	+13.9
French franc	83.4	−10.8
Lira	57.4	−55.9
Yen	142.2	+36.7

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.5245-1.5265
† Canada	1.2096-1.2099
Netherlands	2.6800-2.6850
Belgium	39.33-39.38
Denmark	7.5420-7.5475
West Germany	2.4100-2.4120
Portugal	62.95-63.15
Spain	94.85-95.00
Italy	12.01-12.04
Norway	5.9030-5.9080
France	5.6700-5.6750
Sweden	5.0720-5.0775
Japan	226.25-226.50
Austria	16.92-16.95
Switzerland	2.1400-2.1430

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8258-0.8261

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.3777	+1.42	+1.50	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.98845	+0.87	+0.95	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.14
French franc	5.99526	5.98207	−0.22	−0.14	1.365
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.82207	+0.32	+0.40	1.515
Irish punt	0.685145	0.693737	+1.25	+1.33	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1261.14	−0.14	−0.06	4.11

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 16¾-17¾; seven days, 18¾-19¼; one month, 18¾-19; three months, 18¼-18½; six months, 17⅞-17⅜.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $463.75 (an ounce); pm, $462.50 close, $460.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $473-476 (£243.75-245.50).
Sovereigns (new): $115-117 (£59.25-60.25).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%
(Last changed 10/3/81)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 10¾ Low 1
Week Fixed: 11¼-10¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅝	2 months	11½
3 months	11⅝	3 months	11½

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	11[15/16]-11¾	3 months	12¾
3 months	11[31/32]-11[27/32]	4 months	12⅞
4 months	12[1/16]-11[15/16]	6 months	12¾
6 months	12[5/16]-12[1/16]		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13½-13¼	7 months	13½-13¼
2 months	13½-13¼	8 months	13½-13¼
3 months	13½-13¼	9 months	13½-13¼
4 months	13½-13¼	10 months	13½-13¼
5 months	13½-13¼	11 months	13½-13¼
6 months	13½-13¼	12 months	13½-13¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	12¼-12	6 months	12[15/16]-12[13/16]
3 months	12[11/16]-12[9/16]	12 months	13[5/16]-13[3/16]

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	11⅞	3 months	12⅞
7 days	11⅞	6 months	12
1 month	12¼	1 year	13¼

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 10¾-10½ Close 1-2

1 week	11⅝-11½	6 months	13[1/16]-12[15/16]
1 month	12½-12⅜	9 months	13⅛-13⅞
3 months	12⅞-12⅝	12 months	13⅜-13⅛

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¼ 6 months 13½

Finance House Base Rate 12½%

Wall Street

New York, June 4.—Concerns about the interest rate outlook and the fate of the Reagan Administration's tax cut plan limited the stock market's gains, and it closed mixed after a lack-luster session.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished 2.97 points lower at 986.74 but broader-based averages were fractionally higher and advances outpaced declines by a few issues as volume narrowed to 49,000,000 shares from 54,700,000 yesterday.

A few major banks raised their broker loan rate to 20½ per cent from 19½ per cent today.

Analysts said investors were marking time until the release of the latest money supply figures tomorrow, which should provide a further indication of the direction of interest rates.

Oil issues, which were a major factor in the market's weakness yesterday, recovered today, providing some support.

Among the actives, Atlantic Richfield gained 1⅛ to 43, Union Oil of California rose ⅞ to 30⅝, and Cities Service ½ to 39½. A block of 300,000 shares traded at 39½.

Standard oil of California, also active, added ⅞ to 37⅞, while Mobil rose ⅞ to 55⅞ and Exxon ½ to 65¼.

Standard Oil of Ohio, which completed the acquisition of Kennecott Corp today, added ⅝ to 43¾. However, British Petroleum lost one to 28¾ an expectations that Britain will be forced to lower its oil prices soon.

	June 4	June 3
Allied Chem	53	53½
Allied Stores	27¼	27¼
Allis Chalmers	28	28⅝
Alcoa	33½	33
Amax Inc	54¼	54⅝
Amerada Hess	27¾	27⅝
Am Airlines	21	21¼
Am Brands	42¾	41⅞
Am Broadcast	30¼	30⅝
Am Can	40¼	40¼
Am Cyanamid	35½	35
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16¼
Am Home	34⅝	33⅞
Am Motors	4	3⅞
Am Nat Res	40	40
Am Standard	39½	41
Am Telephone	56⅛	56
AMP Inc	25½	25⅝
Armco Steel	32¼	32⅞
Asarco	39	39¼
Ashland Oil	30⅞	30⅞
Atlantic Richfield	43	41⅞
Avco	28¼	28½
Avon Products	40¼	40
Bankers Tst NY	31¼	31⅞
Bank of America	25¼	25¼
Bank of NY	39¾	39⅞
Beatrice Foods	22½	22¼
Bendix	58⅞	58⅝
Bethlehem Steel	24⅝	25½
Boeing	30½	31⅞
Boise Cascade	44½	45
Borden	27¼	27½
Borg Warner	48	48⅝
Bristol Myers	55	55⅝
BP	28¾	29⅞
Burlington Ind	22⅞	22⅝
Burlington Nthn	54⅞	55
Burroughs	42⅞	43⅞
Campbell Soup	28⅞	28⅝
Canadian Pacific	39¼	40
Caterpillar	65⅞	65⅝
Celanese	64⅝	64⅞
Central Soya	13	13¼
Chase Manhat	52⅞	52
Chem Bank NY	56⅞	57½
Chrysler	6⅝	6⅞
Citicorp	27⅝	27⅞
Cities Service	39½	38⅞
Clark Equip	33⅞	32⅞
Coca Cola	38⅞	38⅞
Colgate	17¼	17⅞
CBS	57⅞	56⅞
Columbia Gas	32¾	32⅞
Combustion Eng	38	38
Comwith Edison	18⅞	19
Conoco	53¼	52⅞
Cons Edison	27⅞	28
Cons Foods	32⅞	32⅞
Cons Power	18⅞	18⅞
Continental Grp	35½	35⅞
Control Data	80⅞	81⅞
Corning Glass	70½	69⅞
CPC Intnl	34¼	34⅞
Crane	39⅞	39⅞
Crocker Int	39	38½
Crown Zeller	40⅞	41
Dart & Kraft	49⅞	50⅞
Deere	42	41⅞
Delta Air	79⅞	78⅞
Detroit Edison	11½	11½
Disney	66½	65⅞
Dow Chemical	32¾	32⅞
Dresser Ind	39⅝	39⅞
Duke Power	18	18
Du Pont	53⅞	51½
Eastern Air	12⅞	12⅞
Eastman Kodak	76⅞	76⅞
Eaton Corp	38⅞	38⅞
El Paso Nat Gas	21⅞	21⅞
Equitable Life	12½	12⅞
Esmark	69½	69⅞
Evans P. D.	23⅞	23½
Exxon Corp	65¼	64⅞
Fed Dept Stores	40⅞	40⅞
Firestone	12⅞	13
Fst Chicago	18⅞	18⅞
Fst Nat Boston	48	48⅞
Fst Penn Corp	4⅞	4⅞
Ford	23½	23½
GAF Corp	16	15⅞
Gen Dynamics	32⅞	32½
Gen Electric	65½	65⅞
Gen Foods	32	32⅞
Gen Mills	36½	36⅞
Gen Motors	56	56⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	4½	4½
Gen Tel Elec	30⅞	30
Gen Tire	27⅞	27⅞
Genesco	10⅞	10⅞
Georgia Pacific	27⅞	27½
Getty Oil	60	60⅞
Gillette	33⅞	33⅞
Goodrich	25	24⅞
Goodyear	17⅞	17¼
Gould Inc	25½	25½
Grace	44⅞	44½
Gt Atlic & Pacific	5½	5½
Greyhound	19⅞	19⅞
Grumman Corp	27⅞	28⅞
Gulf Oil	31¼	31
Gulf & West	18⅞	18⅞
Heinz H. J.	55	54½
Hercules	24⅞	24⅞
Honeywell	89⅞	90⅞
IC Inds	38⅞	37⅞
Ingersoll	73⅞	74
Inland Steel	30⅞	32⅞
IBM	58	59⅞
Int Harvester	17½	17⅞
INCO	21	21⅞
Int Paper	47¼	47⅞
Int Tel Tel	32½	32
Irving Bank	51	51¼
Jewel Co	40⅞	40½
Jim Walter	25⅞	25⅞
Johns-Manville	19⅞	20½
Johnson & John	36⅞	37
Kaiser Aluminium	24½	24⅞
Kennecott	61⅞	61⅞
Kerr McGee	65⅞	65⅞
Kimberly Clark	68	68⅞
K Mart	21⅞	22⅞
Kroger	23⅞	23⅞
L.T.V. Corp	24⅞	25⅞
Litton	68⅞	68⅞
Lockheed	39⅞	38⅞
Lucky Stores	15⅞	15
Manuf Hanover	36⅞	36⅞
Mapco	32⅞	33⅞
Marathon Oil	46⅞	45⅞
Marine Midland	21⅞	21⅞
Martin Marietta	72⅞	73⅞
McDonnell	38⅞	38
Mead	28⅞	28
Merck	100⅞	100⅞
Minnesota Mng	58⅞	57⅞
Mobil Oil	55⅞	54⅞
Monsanto	77⅞	78
Morgan J. P.	58⅞	58⅞
Motorola	77⅞	83
NCR Corp	63⅞	65⅞
NL Industries	33⅞	34⅞
Nabisco	29⅞	29⅞
Nat Distillers	25½	26⅞
Nat Med Ent	27⅞	27½
Nat Steel	27⅞	27⅞
Norfolk West	44½	44
NW Bancorp	29½	29½
Norton Simon	16	15⅞
Occidental Pet	27⅞	28⅞
Ogden	36⅞	37½
Olin Corp	24⅞	24⅞
Owens-Illinois	31⅞	31⅞
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅞	21⅞
Pan Am	5⅞	5⅞
Penney J. C.	33½	34⅞
Pennzoil	37½	38⅞
Pepsico	35⅞	34⅞
Pfizer	53⅞	53⅞
Phelps Dodge	42⅞	42½
Philip Morris	51⅞	51½
Phillips Petrol	35⅞	35⅞
Polaroid	28½	28½
PPG Ind	47½	47½
Proctor Gamble	71	71
Pub Ser El & Gas	17¼	17½
Raytheon	99⅞	101½
RCA Corp	24¼	24¼
Republic Steel	29½	31⅞
Reynolds Ind	43½	43⅞
Reynolds Metal	34⅞	35½
Rockwell Int	41	40½
Royal Dutch	31⅞	32⅞
Safeways	32½	32
St Regis Paper	38¼	38⅞
Santa Fe Ind	26⅞	25⅞
SCM	28⅞	29⅞
Schlumberger	95⅞	95⅞
Scott Paper	18	18⅞
Seagram	51¼	51⅞
Sears Roebuck	19⅞	19⅞
Shell Oil	39⅞	38⅞
Shell Trans.	29⅞	29⅞
Signal Co	30⅞	30⅞
Singer	21¼	21⅞
Sony	23¼	24⅞
Sth Cal Edison	25¼	25⅞
Southern Pacific	48¼	48⅞
Southern Rly	83⅞	83⅞
Sperry Corp	50⅞	51⅞
Std Brands	27⅞	27⅞
Std Oil Califnia	37⅞	38⅞
Std Oil Indiana	52⅞	50⅞
Std Oil Ohio	43⅞	43⅞
Sterling Drug	23⅞	23⅞
Stevens J. P.	18⅞	18⅞
Sunbeam Corp	19	18⅞
Sun Comp	32⅞	32⅞
Teledyne	161	162⅞
Tenneco	37⅞	37⅞
Texaco	33⅞	34
Texas East Corp	45½	45
Texas Inst	105	107⅞
Texas Utilities	18⅞	18⅞
Textron	35⅞	34⅞
TWA	27⅞	27⅞
Travelers Corp	50	48
TRW Inc	61½	61
UAL Inc	29⅞	29
Union Carbide	56½	56⅞
Union Oil Calif	30⅞	29⅞
Un Pacific Corp	52½	51¼
Uniroyal	9⅞	9⅞
United Brands	13	13
US Industries	10	9⅞
US Steel	31⅞	33
Utd Technol	56	55⅞
Wachovia	27⅞	28
Warner Lambert	23⅞	24
Wells Fargo	31	31¼
West'n Bancorp	40½	40⅞
Westnghse Elec	31⅞	32⅞
Weyerhauser	34⅞	34⅞
Whirlpool	29⅞	29⅞
White Motor	2⅞	3
Woolworth	24½	25⅞
Xerox Corp	56⅞	57
Zenith	20⅞	21¼

Canadian Prices

	June 4	June 3
Abitibi	27	27
Alcan Aluminium	39	38½
Algoma Steel	47½	47½
Bell Telephone	19⅞	19⅞
Cominco	68¼	68⅞
Cons Bathurst	27	27⅞
Gulf Oil	27	26⅞
Hawker/Sid Can	23¼	23
Hudson Bay Min	30⅞	30⅞
Hudson Bay Oil	35½	37⅞
Imasco	35⅞	36
Imperial Oil	35	35
Int Pipe	15⅞	15⅞
Mass.-Fergsn	4½	4⅞
Royal Trust	19⅞	19½
Seagram	62½	62⅞
Steel Co	36½	36⅞
Thomson N 'A'	22	22⅞
Walker Hiram	29⅞	29⅞
WCT	14⅞	14⅞

e Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot (1.9895); three months, 1.9850 (2.0160); Canadian dollar, 1.2069 (1.2079).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 386.70 (390.66). The futures index was 385.90 (389.66).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 986.74 (989.71); transportation, 424.61 (422.20); utilities, 104.83 (105.56); 65 stocks, 381.44 (381.74).

US Commodities

New York, June 4. GOLD at the Comex closed down $5.50 for July on yesterday's $470.25 an once. June, $464.00-$466.50; July, $470.20; Aug, $475.50-$476.50; Oct, $487.00; Dec, $499.00-$502.00; Feb, $512.00-$514.00; April, $525.70; June, $538.20; Aug, $550.70; Oct, $563.30; Dec, $576.10; Feb, $589.00; April, $602.10.
CHICAGO IMM GOLD.—June, $466.50; July, $471.90; Sept, $481.50-$492.20; Oct, $488.10; Dec, $499.70-$500.40; Jan, $506.90; March, $519.40; April, $525.70; June $538.30.

SILVER at NY Comex rebounded smartly at the close on short covering, and possible new buying, as traders seemed heartened at the amount of bargain hunting demand that developed at today's bench mark low of $9.95 an ounce. The closing prices were: June, 1,011.00c; July, 1,020.00-1,024.00c; Aug, 1,038.40c; Sept, 1,05.00-1,055.00c; Dec, March, 1,140.80c; May, 1,169.80c; July, 1,198.80c; Sept, 1,227.80c; Dec, 1,271.80c; Jan, 1,286.30c; March, 1,315.30c.

COPPER: Nearby months closed 0.25 to 0.05 cent higher while the more deferreds lost 0.05 to 0.35 cents. June, 77.55c; July, 78.45c-78.50c; Aug, 79.70c; Sept, 80.80c-81.00c; Dec, 84.50c-84.70c; Jan, 85.40c; March, 87.30c; May, 89.60c; July, 91.70c; Sept, 93.80c; Dec, 96.95c; Jan, 98.00c; March, 100.10c.

COTTON: July, 84.45c-84.60c; Aug, 84.00c-84.80c; Oct, 80.60c-80.73c; Dec, 78.55c-78.65c; March, 80.05c-80.20c; May, 81.40c-81.70c; July, 83.00c-83.50c; Oct, 82.80c-83.40c.

COFFEE futures accelerated their downward trend with 4.00 cents limit loesses across the board and a 6.66 cent loss in limitless spot July. July, 102.50c-105.00c; Sept, 105.48c; Dec, 103.62c; March, 102.15c; May, 104.65c; July, 102.31c; Sept, 103.50c.

COCOA: Trading primarily on the weakened pound sterling, cocoa futures slid $35.00 to $64.00 a ton innearby months to again settle at new contract lows. July settled at $1,479, off $50,000. July, $1,479; Sept, $1,556; Dec, $1,666; March, $1,748; May, $1,810; July, $1,865; Sept, $1,920.

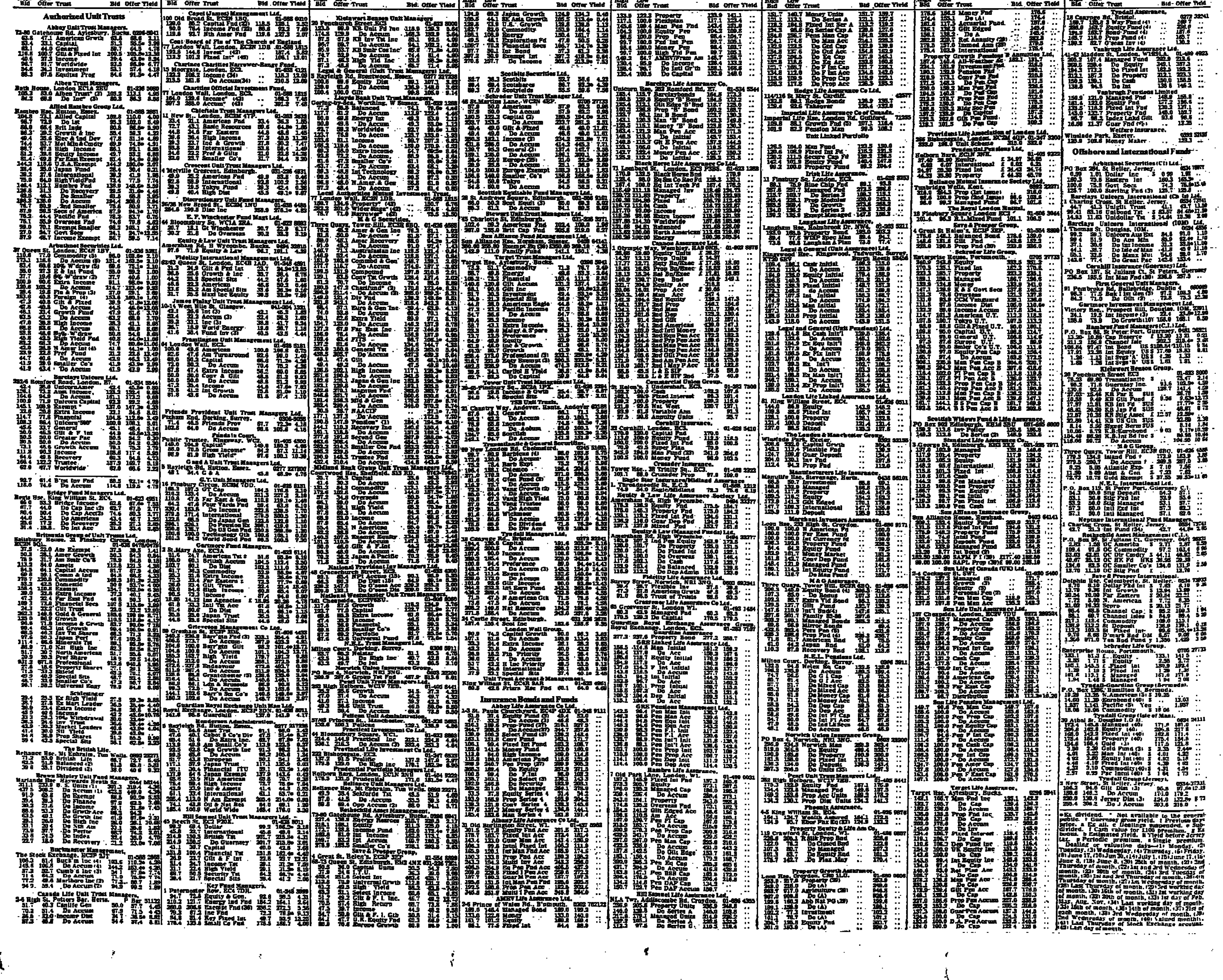
SUGAR: Despite some new buying and shortcovering prices held moderate losses of 0.45 cent to 0.59 cent a lb. Spot July closed at 16.89 cents a lb against its brigha of 15.90 cents. Sugar No. 11 closing prices were: July 16.83c-16.90c; Sept, 17.05c-17.11c; Oct, 7.10c-17.20c; Jan, 7.30c; March, 17.45c-17.50c; May, 17.60c-17.70c; July, 17.75c-17.80c; Sept, 17.80c-17.84c; Oct, 17.85c-17.95c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS: July, 734½c-722½c; Aug, 737c-725c; Sept, 735c-725½c; Nov, 746½c-736½c; Jan, 763c-755½c; March, 781½c-773½c; May, 794c-787½c; July, 804c-797½c.

SOYABEAN OIL closed down 0.12 cent a lb to up 0.05 cent in January. July, 22.35c-22.37c; Aug, 22.75c; Sept, 23.20c-23.25c; Oct, 23.60c; Dec, 24.20c; Jan 24.50c; March 24.85c-24.95c; May, 25.20c; July, 25.45c-25.50c; Aug, 25.68c-25.70c. SOYABEAN MEAL finished $0.80 to $2.30 a ton lower. July, $210.00-$210.20; Aug, $211.00-$211.30; Sept, $212.00-$213.00; Oct, $213.50-$214.00; Dec, $218.60-$218.40; Jan, $220.80-$220.00; March, $226.50; May, $228.00-$229.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT was firm to very steady. July, 405-398½c; Sept, 422-416c; Dec, 446-439½c; March, 466½-460½c; May, 475½-470c; July, 479½-474c. MAIZE was barely steady to steady. July, 342½-338½c; Sept, 347¾-343½c; Dec, 355-347c; March, 364½-359½c; May, 370½-366½c; July, 371½-371c. OATS were mixed. July, 212-206½c; Sept, 204-197½c; Dec, 210½-204½c; March, 217½-215c; May, 220½-215c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds



1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941			
63.8	47.1	American Growth	63.8	68.6	2.11
53.4	33.1	Capital	51.3	55.5e	3.98
62.1	44.0	General	59.7	64.5	4.78
116.6	100.7	Gilt & Fixed Int	100.5	105.8e	12.38
40.6	27.3	Income	39.4	42.6e	8.34
		Capel (James) Management Ltd. 100 Old Broad St, EC2N 1BQ. 01-588 6010			
120.0	85.2	Capital Fnd (22)	118.5	126.1	2.52
90.9	78.4	Income Fnd (22)	86.8	92.2	7.69
119.6	92.7	Nth Amer Fnd	119.6	127.3	2.07
		Cent Board of Fin of The Church of England. 77 London Wall, London, EC2N 1DB. 01-588 1815			
192.8	144.6	Invest* (42)	..	187.4	5.82
112.3	101.2	Fixed Int* (42)	..	106.1	13.01
		Kleinwort Benson Unit Managers. 20 Fenchurch Street, EC3. 01-623 8000			
123.5	99.8	KB Unit Fd Inc	118.9	128.3	5.64
174.8	129.9	Do Accum	168.3	182.9	5.64
87.5	57.9	KB Inv Tst Inc	85.1	92.5	4.99
96.7	59.7	Do Accum	94.1	102.2	4.89
65.9	53.7	KB Smlr Cos Inc	65.6	71.8e	4.60
74.7	52.9	Do Accum	74.4	81.4	4.60
124.9	69.3	Japan Growth	124.9	134.3	0.48
105.5	44.1	SE Asia Growth	105.5	113.4e	0.44
129.8	73.8	U.S. Growth	129.8	138.8	1.13
182.7	82.0	Commodity	151.9	164.4	1.14
186.1	108.9	Energy	150.4	161.7	1.22
49.5	46.1	Exploration Fd	47.8	50.5	0.25
106.7	70.2	Financial Secs	106.7	114.7e	2.39
57.7	50.1	Int Bond	57.3	61.3	2.36
133.9	122.3	Property	133.9	141.1	..
117.1	100.6	Flexiplan	117.1	123.4	..
145.6	109.4	Man Pen Fnd	143.4	151.0	..
104.2	100.0	Equity Pen	104.2	109.8	..
151.7	140.7	Money Units	151.7	159.7	..
121.1	113.1	Do Series A	121.1	127.5	..
176.6	156.5	Money Fnd	..	176.6	..
174.4	153.1	Do (A)	..	174.4	..
		Tyndall Assurance. 18 Canynge Rd, Bristol. 0272 32241			
169.7	136.8	3 Way Fund (4)	..	169.7	..
205.3	167.4	Managed Fund	202.9	213.6	..

هكذا من الأصل

Stock Exchange Prices

Collapse in gilts

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 1. Dealings End, June 12. § Contango Day, June 15. Settlement Day, June 22

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
99 15/16	91	Exch	9 1/2% 1981	99 3/4	..	9.534	12.568
98 3/16	93	Exch	3% 1981	98 3/16	+1/32	3.055	11.591
100 15/16	93 3/4	Exch	12 3/4% 1981	100 1/16	-1/8	12.742	12.445
97 15/16	88	Treas	8 1/2% 1980-82	97 1/2	-1/4	8.719	12.909
95 1/4	81 3/4	Treas	3% 1982	93 3/4	-1/4	3.199	12.567
102 3/4	90 1/2	Treas	14% 1982	101	-1/16	13.859	12.535
95 15/16	85 3/4	Treas	8 1/4% 1982	95 1/4	-1/4	8.661	13.112
96	85 1/4	Exch	9 1/4% 1982	94 3/4	-5/16	9.759	13.727
94 13/16	84 1/2	Exch	8 3/4% 1983	94	-1/4	9.307	13.045
59 1/2	76 1/2	Exch	3% 1983	89 1/2	-1/2	3.332	10.574
99 7/16	85 1/4	Treas	12% 1983	97	-1/4	12.372	13.827
94 1/16	84 1/2	Treas	9 1/4% 1983	92 1/4	-5/16	10.030	13.585
102 1/4	94 1/4	Exch	13 1/4% 1983	99 1/2	-1/2	13.378	13.793
94 1/16	84 1/2	Exch	10% 1983	92 1/2	-1/2	10.822	13.673
87 1/4	76 3/4	Fund	5 1/2% 1982-84	85 1/2	-1/2	6.443	12.172
97 7/16	86 1/2	Exch	11 1/4% 1984	94 1/4	-1/2	11.954	13.912
104 1/2	94 1/2	Exch	14% 1984	100	-1	14.005	13.968
80 1/2	65 1/4	Exch	3% 1984	79 1/2	-1/2	3.774	11.121
97 1/2	88	Treas	12% 1984	95 1/4	-1	12.612	13.941
100 1/4	97 1/2	Treas	15% 1985	103	-1 1/4	14.567	13.929
96 7/8	94 1/2	Exch Cv	12% 1985	94 1/2	-1 1/4	12.709	13.900
75 1/4	65 15/16	Treas	3% 1985	74 1/2	-1/2	4.024	11.132
103 1/4	83 1/2	Exch	12 1/4% 1985	94 1/2	-1 1/4	12.972	13.977
97 1/4	92 1/4	Exch	11 3/4% 1986	92 1/2	-1 1/2	12.721	13.999
MEDIUMS							
69 15/16	68 1/2	Treas	3% 1986	68 1/2	-1/16	4.356	11.372
97 1/2	92 1/4	Treas	12% 1986	92 1/4	-1 1/4	12.978	14.121
89 7/8	78 1/2	Treas	8 1/2% 1984-86	82 1/2	-1	10.149	12.968
105 1/4	90 1/4	Exch	13 1/2% 1987	101 1/2	-1 1/4	13.326	14.074
81 3/4	70 1/4	Fund	6 1/2% 1985-87	76 1/2	-1	8.606	12.472
99 1/2	91 1/4	Treas	12% 1987	92 1/2	-1 1/2	13.266	14.303
83	71 7/8	Treas	7 3/4% 1985-88	76 1/2	-1	10.176	13.263
65 3/4	54 7/8	Trans	3% 1978-88	60	-1 1/4	4.980	11.311
98	82 1/2	Treas	11 1/2% 1989	87 1/2	-2	13.628	14.556
68 3/4	57 1/4	Treas	5% 1986-89	63	-1 1/4	8.037	12.343
104 1/4	89 1/4	Treas	13% 1990	96 1/4	-2	14.207	14.780
95 1/2	89 1/4	Exch	12 1/2% 1990	89 1/4	-2	14.271	15.065
82	69 1/2	Treas	8 1/4% 1987-90	73 1/2	-1 1/2	11.261	13.290
96 1/4	81 1/2	Treas	11 3/4% 1991	85 1/4	-2 1/4	13.977	14.365

OIL

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
105	54	Ampol Pet	93 1/2	+3	3.4	3.7	22.6
385	164	Anvil	225	..	..	..	..
338	83	Berkeley Exp	323	..	..	..	..
398	276	Brit Borneo	278	..	17.4	6.2	17.4
502	318	B.P.	374	+4	28.9	7.7	4.2
250	145	Burmah Oil	149	+1	9.3	6.2	9.0
211	70	Carless Capel	135	-2	3.9	2.9	13.3
102	58	Century Oils	73 1/2	-3	3.8	5.2	4.4
108	53 3/4	Charterhall	67	-2	..	..	..
117	70	Charterhse Pet	79	-1	1.3	1.7	20.8
30 1/2	11 1/2	CF Petroles	£12	..	233	19.4	3.7
27	15	Collins K.	16	+1	..	..	..
10 1/8	6 3/16	Damson Oil	£6 25/32	+1/8	..	..	..
560	333	Gas & Oil Acre	495	+5	..	..	..
985	375	Global Nat Res	800	+60	..	..	..
206	65 3/4	KCA Int	176	-5	7.5	4.3	29.5
889	333	Lasmo	549	-13	..	..	18.3
13 7/8	8 11/16	Do Ops	£9 1/8	-1/8	90.5	9.9	30.4
101 1/2	91	Do 14% Ln	£99 1/2	..	1400	14.1	..
36 1/2	16 7/8	Pennzoil	£19 3/8	+1 1/16	94.2	4.8	7.5
127	31 1/2	Premier Cons	67	-1	..	..	..
931 1/4	275	Ranger Oil	506	+32	..	..	..
23 5/16	15 21/32	Royal Dutch	£16 7/32	+3/16	123	7.6	2.9
522	310	Shell Trans	360	+2	27.3	7.6	4.6
430	220	Tricentrol	220	-2	12.0	5.5	8.9
531	205	Ultramar	450	-3	15.7	3.5	7.0
515	320	Weeks Petrol	450	..	..	..	38.7

PROPERTY

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
101	42	Allied Ldn	83 1/2 •	..	1.7	2.1	26.8
242	142	Allnatt Ldn	226	..	5.3	2.3	31.4
119	57	Ang Met Hldgs	103 h	..	1.4b	1.4	..
175	97	Apex Props	155	..	2.8	1.8	47.0
36	28	Aquis Secs	30 1/2	..	1.3	4.2	29.0
150	99	Beaumont Prop	122	-1	7.5	6.1	20.0
270	165	Berkeley Hmbro	250	..	9.4	3.8	15.8
252	90	Bradford Prop	234	..	4.8	2.0	21.7
108	55 1/2	British Land	92	-1	0.4b	0.4	11.5
159	86	Brixton Estate	134	-1	4.5	3.4	25.8
126	85 1/2	Cap & Counties	124	-2	4.9	3.9	19.0
32 1/2	15 1/4	Town & City	26 1/2	-1	0.0e	..	..
184	117	Trafford Park	168	..	9.3	5.5	20.5
373	205	Trust Secs	361	-6	..	..	5.8
34	14	Webb J.	34	..	0.8	2.2	10.0
28 3/4	21	Wereldhave	£21	..	125	5.9	12.1
80	27 1/2	W'mster & C'ty	73 1/2	..	4.6	6.3	5.9

RUBBER

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
130	75	Barlow Hldgs	111	..	4.3	3.9	..
555	305	*Castlefield*	498	+8	8.6	1.7	..
65	39 1/2	Cons Plant	61	+1/2	3.5	5.7	..
198	115	Doranakande	163 •	..	4.3	2.6	..
938	627	Guthrie Corp	837	-13	42.9	5.1	..
232	159	Harrisons Malay	218	..	11.4	5.2	..
91	45	Highlds & Low	84	..	3.0	3.5	..
10	4 27/32	Hongkong	£10	..	54.3	5.4	..
750	363	Killinghall	750	..	20.0	2.7	..
465	290	Ldn Sumatra	383	•h-7	11.4	3.0	..
130	68	Majedie	108	+2	3.2	3.0	..

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	195	Assam Frontier	198	..	14.3	7.2	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	455	..	7.1	1.6	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	313	..	21.4	6.8	..
332	263	Moran	273	..	4.6f	1.7	..
158	99 1/2	Surmah Valley	99 1/2 •	..	3.2	3.2	..
253	132 3/4	Warren Plant	206	-2	14.2b	6.9	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	32 1/2	..	6.8	20.8	..
34 1/2	28 1/2	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£34	..	500	14.7	..
27 1/2	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£20	..	146	7.3	7.4
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	200	-5	10.1	5.0	9.4
185	93	Milford Docks	118	..	9.8	8.3	..
193	88	Nesco Inv	178	..	10.0	5.6	..
35	28 1/2	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33 1/2	..	500	14.9	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Atlantic Resources	105
BOC 9% Cnv Uns Ln 2001-6 (£100‡)	£1 1/4 prem
Crouch Group 9% Cnv 1993-98 (Par‡)	£3/4 prem-1/2
Intasun 10p Ord	88
Laing Props 8 3/4% Cnv Ln 2000-05 (£100‡)	£106 3/4f
Leeds (City of) 13 1/2% Red 2006 (£97 3/4b)	£43-1 1/2
Ldn Shop Prop 9% Cnv 1994-99 (£100)	£93 3/4+1/4
Munton Bros 10p Ord (18)	21 1/2
Murray Technology 25p Ord (100)	101
Newcastle Water 7 3/4% Rd Pf 1986 (£99)	£97 1/2
Phicom 8% Cum Cnv Red Pref (£1‡)	15 1/2 prem-1
Swansea (City of) 13 3/4% Red 2006 (£96 3/4)	£93-3/4
Treasury 11 1/2% 1985 (†i)	£28 1/2-3/16
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1996 (†)	£96 1/2-1 1/4

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Allied Irish Bnk (IR£1‡)	..	12 1/2 prem-1
Amal Power (190‡)	July 10	87 1/2f+2
Broken Hill Props (473‡)	Apr 30	605+15
Cadbury Schweppes (77p)	July 3	4 prem
Change Wares Units (60	..	42 1/2-7
Fine Art Dev (55‡)	Aug 11	12 prem+1 1/2
GRE (250‡)	July 24	81 1/2 prem+11
Horizon Travel (205‡)	July 24	61 1/2 prem
NEI (70‡)	July 24	6 1/2 prem
Smurfit Jef (129‡)	July 3	20 1/2 prem-1

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid b, £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £30 paid. j £25 paid.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Morgan Crucible confident despite poor first quarter

By Catherine Gunn

Mr Ian Weston Smith, chairman of materials handling and subcomponents group Morgan Crucible, believes that the recession in Britain has passed its low point, and is confident that the group's profits will now climb steadily.

However, there is little evidence of upturn in the first-quarter figures published yesterday, which show a decline in pretax profits to March 29, from £3.28m to £519,000. But Mr Weston Smith says that the level of orders from the group's Unitd Kingdom customers picked up in April, and has continued to improve.

If Mr Weston Smith's optimism proves right, the poor first quarter would mark the end of a decline which began for Morgan Crucible in the second quarter of 1980 and left the group with pretax profits of £10m that year against £14.8m in 1979.

Its first-quarter sales were down from £32.5m to £29.1m and trading profits slumped from £4.1m to £1.34m. The first quarter tends to have high borrowings, but interest costs were kept to £822,000 against £808,000.

The group has been working hard to contain debt. Gearing is currently about a third of shareholders' funds. The first-quarter figures also contain further redundancy costs, which came out of trading profits and are not specified. While keeping a wary eye on its European markets, both East and West, Morgan Crucible is said to be doing well in the Middle East, Australia, South Africa, Brazil and the United States.

In spite of his confidence in the British economy's recovery, Mr Weston Smith is cautious on the likely outcome for the year and is making no forecasts yet. But he said that shareholders would benefit if the group does do well in the year to December 31.

Ladbroke optimistic

A good years is confidently expected for the Ladbroke Group in 1981, Mr Cyril Stein, the chairman told shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday. Profits so far for the year to December 31 are satisfactory. Last year the group made £32.6m against £49.2m. Ladbroke is expanding fast to replace the casino profits lost from the group when the Gaming Board refused to renew licences on its four London casinos which closed just over a year ago. Shareholders yesterday approved the formulation of a new property side to be set up in America.

In the United Kingdom, Ladbroke has obtained planning permission for an office development in London's Mayfair, made two acquisitions, and seen material growth in machine hire already this year, Mr Stein said.

Century Oils slips, but raises dividend

Pretax profits of Stoke-on Trent lubricants and coolants group Century Oils slipped to £3.04m in the year to March 31 from £3.57m the year before. But the dividend has been raised by 24.4 per cent to 4p gross, where it is still more than 3¼ times covered by earnings.

Mr Charles Mitchell, the chairman, says that Century is working to expand its product range and outlets to generate further profits with or without an upturn in the economy and has just started to make lubricants in Brazil. Lubricants are its major business. It also makes related equipment but prefers to concentrate on specialized high technology markets.

"We don't want to be subject too much to the vagaries of the bulk commodity market", Mr Mitchell says.

However, the recession and in particular the problems of the West Midlands engineering industry have cut demand here for Century's products. New business from new markets and products has not yet balanced that out, fully, at the pretax level, though sales rose from £39.1m to £52.2m, reflecting new products.

Interest costs jumped from £654,000 to £1.17m last year. Year-end borrowings were £700,000 higher at £7m, but, thanks to asset revaluations, gearing has actually fallen, Mr Mitchell said yesterday. Overseas assets are balanced where possible by overseas borrowings to iron out the effects of currency shifts on the balance sheet.

Stocks rose a little during the year as demand weakened and were reduced where possible, in a controlled way, Mr Mitchell said. The group hopes to improve its profits this year but is not commenting yet on its chances of exceeding 1979-80's £3.57m pretax outcome.

Profits halved at Veba oil offshoot

International

Veba Oel, the Veba Group's oil subsidiary, saw its net profits fall by 51 per cent last year and operated at only break-even point in the first five months of 1981, Herr Fritz Oschmann, the chairman, said yesterday.

The strong rise in the cost of crude oil and insufficient revenue from petroleum product sales caused net earnings to fall to DM132m (£27.5m) in 1980 from DM271m in 1979, he told a news conference.

Despite the further deterioration in 1981, the company should still be able to pay a *dividend* to its parent on this year's results, he added. Veba Oel has transferred DM90m of its 1980 earnings to the parent.

Oschmann said oil price increases decided by OPEC had been reinforced by the dollar's strength, pushing up the cost of crude to German importers to a current DM670 per tonne from DM519 at the end of 1980 and DM349 at the end of 1979. On the sales side, light heating oil caused the most concern last year with ex-refinery earnings per tonne sold falling sharply.

Veba Oel was unable however to reduce its purchases of crude to match the lower demand for heating oil, petrol and other petroleum products, since it was locked into fixed oil supply contracts with producers.

Household Finance deal

Household Finance Corp., a United States group which entered the consumer finance business in Australia in 1979, is forming a joint venture with Australia's largest retailer Myer Emporium.

Household will hold a 50 per cent interest in a new entity, HFC Financial Services Limited, with Myer, which operates 124 department, food and discount department stores.

HFC Financial is being formed from the successor of HFC's initial consumer finance venture in Australia. Household entered the market by acquiring a 49 per cent interest in David Jones Finance, subsequently renamed David Jones-Household Finance Limited. Household said bought the remaining 51 per cent David Jones and, has completed the sale of a 50 per cent interest to Myer.

A Household spokesman could not explain why the company, in effect, exchanged venture partners by buying David Jones and selling immediately to Myer.

The spokesman said "Myer *had no intention* of operating consumer finance offices in its stores. Household said that since it bought its initial interest in David Jones, the operation has increased to 60 branches from 36, with gross receivables increasing from \$40m (£21m) to more than \$85m.

Carrian purchase

Carrian Holdings announced yesterday that Union Bank of Hongkong will issue 8.845m new shares, representing slightly less than 10 per cent of its present issued share capital, at HK\$9.60 a share to a Carrian subsidiary, Pearl Manning.

Trading in Union Bank shares o nthe Hongkong Stock Exchange was *suspended* immediately after the announcement.

Carrian said the purchase represented its continued policy of diversification in long-term investment.

OKC Corporation

OKC Corporation of Dallas said Mr Charles E. Redwine, a trustee of its liquidating trust, announced that the \$10 a share distribution the trust expected to make this year would be delayed indefinitely because Basin Refining Inc. defaulted on payments of \$37.5m (£18.7m) of principal and \$2m of interest that were due on June 1 to the trust.

Mr Redwine said the trust turned the matter over to counsel with instructions to take appropriate legal action.

Law Report June 4 1981 House of Lords

Profit motive no ground for conspiracy

Lonrho Ltd and Others v Shell Petroleum Co Ltd and Others

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Scarman, and Lord Bridge of Harwich

An alleged illegal agreement by United Kingdom oil companies and others to supply the unlawful regime in Rhodesia with oil in breach of sanctions imposed after the unilateral declaration of independence (UDI) in 1965, which Lonrho Ltd and associated companies claimed had caused them serious loss by non-use of a pipeline from the port of Beira in Mozambique to Umtali in Rhodesia was held, on the assumed facts, not to constitute a breach of contract nor to give rise to a civil cause of action for conspiracy against the oil companies, since the alleged agreement to supply oil by other means was not aimed at nor made with the intention of injuring Lonrho.

The House of Lords so held in giving reasons for dismissing on May 6 an appeal by Lonrho from the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Eveleigh and Lord Justice Fox) (*The Times*, March 6)

The court had upheld Mr Justice Parker who had found in favour of *Shell Petroleum Co* Ltd and British Petroleum Co Ltd, in an arbitration in which Lonrho sought damages on their claim for loss arising out of the non-use of the pipeline which had supplied oil to a refinery in Rhodesia, following the Southern Rhodesia (Petroleum) Order, 1965. That order made it a criminal offence to supply oil to the illegal regime in Southern Rhodesia without a licence.

Mr Jonathan Parker, QC and Mr Timothy Lloyd for Lonrho; Mr Peter Curry, QC, Mr Brian Davenport, QC and Mr Gordon Langley for Shell; Mr Robert Alexander, QC, Mr Roger Buckley, QC and Mr Jonathan Sumption for BP.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the appeal arose under section 21(1)(a) of the Arbitration Act, 1950, in an arbitration between the claimants (Lonrho) and the respondents (Shell and BP). Lonrho claimed on the facts alleged to recover damages in excess of £100m against the oil companies, who contended that even if the facts alleged were true they would not disclose any cause of action against them. If the facts in issue had had to be decided, the cost in time and money would have been immense. The parties therefore agreed as a first step to invite the umpire and arbitrators to answer nine questions of law on the assumption that all Lonrho's allegations were true. If all were answered "No", Lonrho's claim would fail.

The claim arose out of the construction and operation of an oil refinery near Umtali in Southern Rhodesia by a refinery company of which Shell, BP and other participant companies held all the shares, and the construction and operation by Lonrho of a pipeline connecting the refinery with an ocean terminal near Beira.

The refinery on completion would be the only producer of petroleum products in Rhodesia and the commercial expectation of all parties was that it would obtain its crude oil from supplies shipped to Beira by the participating companies or associates and transported through the pipeline to Umtali. The terms on which that was to be done were in a shippers' agreement of October 30, 1962, between Lonrho and the participating companies.

The refinery and pipeline came into operation in January, 1965; all proceeded according to expectations until November 11, 1965, when the Southern Rhodesia government unilaterally declared independence. Five days later the United Kingdom Parliament passed the Southern Rhodesia Act and, pursuant to it, the 1965 petroleum order prohibiting Shell and BP, as companies incorporated in the United Kingdom, from supplying any crude oil or petroleum products to Southern Rhodesia. That was replaced by a more comprehensive order in 1968 which made no significant changes.

From the beginning of December, 1965, no further oil was *shipped to Beira by any of the* participating oil companies and the pipeline remained unused throughout the UDI period, so that Lonrho received no fees under the shippers' agreement for transporting oil, and no return on its investment in the pipeline.

The alleged conduct of Shell and BP on which Lonrho relied as constituting their cause of action could be stated in a nutshell: (1) before the making of the 1965 sanctions order Shell and BP, by assuring the illegal regime that an adequate supply of petroleum products would reach Southern Rhodesia even if sanctions were imposed by other nations, influenced the regime to declare and continue to give effect to UDI; and (2) after the sanctions order had been made, Shell and BP, themselves and through associated companies which they controlled, supplied petroleum products to Southern Rhodesia and thereby prolonged the period for which the pipeline was prevented from operating. Those were the facts which must be assumed to be true in order to answer the questions of law

Two of the questions were directed to determining whether on the true construction of the shippers' agreement, governed by English law, the conduct alleged would constitute a breach by Shell and BP of any of its express or implied terms.

Five meticulous analyses of the language of the agreement were unanimous, and his Lordship agreed with them. He too would hold that the matters pleaded in Lonrho's points of claim disclosed no cause for breach of contract.

The next two questions were directed to determining whether delivery to Southern Rhodesia by Shell and BP of *petroleum* products contrary to the sanctions orders gave to Lonrho a right of action *in tort* against them, assuming that Lonrho did suffer loss in consequence of what they did. The claim was put in the alternative; either as an innominate tort, committed by Shell and BP severally, of causing foreseeable loss by an unlawful act; or as a joint tort of conspiring together to do an unlawful act which caused damage to Lonrho.

It was well settled in *Cutler v Wandsworth Stadium Ltd* ([1949] AC 398) that the question when the legislation which made persons guilty of criminal offences liable also in a civil action for damages at the suit of any person who thereby suffered loss or damage was a question of construction

The Act and the sanctions order here created a statutory prohibition on the doing of certain classes of acts and provided the means of enforcing the prohibition by prosecution for a criminal offence which was subject to heavy penalties

So one started with the presumption laid down originally by Lord Tenterden in *Doe v Bridges* ((1831) 1 B & Ad 857, 859) where he spoke of the general rule that "where an act creates an obligation, and enforces the performance in a specified manner . . . that performance cannot be enforced in any other manner". Where the only manner of enforcing performance for which the Act provided was prosecution for the criminal offence of failure to perform the statutory obligation or for contravening the statutory prohibition which the Act created, there were two classes of exception

The first was where on the true construction of the Act it was apparent that the obligation or prohibition was imposed for the benefit or protection of a particular class of individuals, as in the case of the Factories Acts or similar legislation.

The second exception was where the statute created a public right and a particular member of the public suffered what Mr Justice Brett in *Benjamin v Storr* ((1874) LR 9 CP 400, 407), described as "particular, direct and substantial" damage "other and different from that which was common to all the rest of the public".

It had been the unanimous opinion of all below that the sanctions orders made pursuant to the 1965 Act fell within neither of those two exceptions. Clearly they were not imposed for the benefit or protection of a particular class of individuals engaged in supplying or delivering crude oil or petroleum products to Southern Rhodesia. They were intended to put an end to such transactions.

Equally plainly they did not create any public right. On the contrary, what they did was to withdraw a previously existing right of citizens of, and companies incorporated in, the United Kingdom to trade with Southern Rhodesia in crude oil and petroleum products.

In agreement with all those members of the judiciary who had considered the matter his Lordship could see no ground on which contraventions by Shell and BP of the sanctions orders, although not amounting to any breach of contract with Lonrho, nevertheless constituted a tort for which Lonrho could recover in a civil suit any loss caused to them by such contraventions.

The House was invited to answer the question of conspiracy as a civil tort on the assumption that *the purpose of* Shell and BP in entering into the agreement to do the various things it must be assumed they did in contravention of the sanctions order, was to forward their own commercial interests: not to injure those of Lonrho.

The question of law was whether an intent by the defendants to injure the plaintiff was an essential element in the civil wrong of conspiracy, even where the acts agreed to be done by the conspirators amounted to criminal offences under a penal statute. It was conceded that there was no direct authority either way in the decided cases.

Conspiracy as a criminal offence had a long history. It consisted, as Viscount Simon had put it in *Crofter Hand Woven Harris Tweed Co v Veitch* ([1942] AC 435,439) in "the agreement of two or more persons to effect any unlawful purpose, whether as their ultimate aim, or only as a means to it, and the crime is complete if there is such an agreement, even though nothing is done in pursuance of it".

Regarded as a civil tort, however, conspiracy was a highly anomalous cause of action, the gist of which was damage to the plaintiff. So long as it remained unexecuted the agreement which alone constituted the crime of conspiracy caused no damage; it was only acts done in execution of the agreement that were capable of doing that. The tort, unlike the crime, consisted not of agreement but of concerted action taken pursuant to agreement.

The civil tort of conspiracy, during its chequered history, had attracted more academic controversy than success in practical application.

Why should an act which caused economic loss to A but was not actionable at his suit if done by B alone become actionable because B did it pursuant to an agreement between B and C? Lord Justice Bowen had explained the distinction in *Mogul Steamship Co v McGregor, Gow & Co* ((1888) 21 QBD 598,616) when he said: "The distinction is based on sound reason, for a combination may make oppressive or dangerous that which if it proceeded only from a single person would be otherwise".

But to suggest today that acts done by one street-corner grocer *in* concert with a second were more oppressive and dangerous to a competitor than the same acts done by a string of supermarkets under a single ownership or that of a multinational conglomerate such as Lonrho or oil company such as Shell or BP did not exercise greater economic power than any combination of small businesses was to shut one's eyes to what had been happening in the business and industrial world

The civil tort of conspiracy to injure the plaintiff's commercial interests where that was the predominant purpose of the agreement between defendants and of the acts done in execution of it which caused damage to the plaintiff must be accepted as too well established to be discarded, however anomalous it might seem today.

The House had an unfettered choice whether to confine the civil action of conspiracy to the narrow field to which alone it had an established claim or whether to extend that already anomalous tort beyond those narrow limits which were all that common sense and the application of the legal logic of the decided cases required.

His Lordship's choice was unhesitatingly the same as that of Mr Justice Parker and all three members of the Court of Appeal. He was against extending the scope of the civil tort of conspiracy beyond acts done in execution of an agreement entered into by two or more persons for the purpose not of protecting their own interests but of injuring the interests of the plaintiff

The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Keith, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge concurred.

Solicitors: Cameron Markby; Slaughter & May; Linklaters & Paines.

Clerk's unauthorized contract invalid

North West Leicestershire District Council v East Midlands Housing Association Ltd.

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Brandon and Sir Stanley Rees

[Judgments delivered May 15]

The Court of Appeal, by a majority, held in a reserved judgment that a contract made under the seal of a local authority on its behalf by its clerk not so authorized was invalid by reason of the proviso to section 266(2) of the Local Government Act, 1933.

Their Lordships (Lord Justice Brandon dissenting) allowed an appeal by North West Leicestershire District Council from the dismissal by Mr Justice Swanwick of its claim against the East Midlands Housing Association Ltd., for £70,651 paid under the contract.

Section 266 provides: "(1) A local authority may enter into contracts for the discharge of any of their functions. (2) All contracts made by a local authority or by a committee thereof shall be made in accordance with the standing orders of the local authority, and in the case of contracts for the supply of goods or materials or for the execution of works, the standing orders shall — (a) require that, except as otherwise provided by or under the standing orders, notice of the intention of the authority or committee, as the case may be, to enter into the contract shall be published and tenders invited; and (b) regulate the manner in which such notice shall be published and tenders invited: Provided that a person entering into a contract with a local authority shall not be bound to inquire whether the standing orders of the authority which apply to the contract have been complied with, and all contracts entered into by a local authority, if otherwise *valid, shall have full force and* effect notwithstanding that the standing orders applicable thereto have not been complied with."

Mr Harold Burnett for the local authority; Mr John Dyson for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON said that on April 1 1974 the Coalville Urban District Council ceased to exist and all its rights and duties were taken over by the plaintiffs, the North West Leicestershire District Council. One matter under the urban district council's consideration in its last year of life was the building of three blocks of flats for old people. On August 14 1973 its health and housing committee had resolved that the council approve in principle the scheme submitted by the defendants, the East Midlands Housing Association, for the provision of that accommodation.

On December 18 1973 the committee resolved that the fixed-price tender submitted by the association of £468,985 be accepted subject to written approval.

In the last hectic month before the transfer of functions Mr Marson, the clerk of the urban district council, was no doubt extremely busy, but only two of his actions concerned their Lordships. First, on March 5 1974 he reported to the finance and general purposes committee of the council that that was the last committee meeting of the council and at his request the committee resolved "that the chairman of the council be authorized to deal with any matter requiring urgent attention during the *period up to March 31 1974*".

Second, on March 18 1974 he met Mr Elderfield, secretary and chief executive of the association, and attested the sealing of a printed contract for the building of the flats by the association. That contract, in a standard RIBA form, contained the following written addition under clause 31(B)(b)(iii): "The contract shall also be adjustable on the index based formula of the Department of Environment's circular No 158/73."

The effect of incorporating the manuscript under clause 31(B)(b)(iii) as a term of the contract would be to turn a fixed-price contract into a contract with a price fluctuation clause. The plaintiff council had paid out £550,999 on interim certificates of its architect. In 1976, the district auditor took the view that the contract was a fixed-price contract.

Hence the plaintiffs' claim from the association of £70,651 overpaid and the association's counter-claim for £40,988 under the contract with the price-fluctuation clause.

Mr Justice Swanwick held that the price fluctuation clause was incorporated as a term of the contract and gave judgment for the association

There were two issues to be decided: (1) Did Mr Marson have authority to agree the clause on behalf of the urban district council? (2) Even if he did not, was the council bound by the contract to which its seal was affixed?

The judge said that he would have held that in striking the bargain with Mr Elderfield on March 18 1974 Mr Marson exceeded his authority, actual or ostensible, had he not found (1) that the bargain was authorized by the resolution of March 5 1974, and (2) that the contract as amended was validated by the proviso to section 266 (2) of the Act of 1933.

The terms of the resolution of March 5 1974 were too clear to support the argument that they gave Mr Marson the necessary authority. They gave authority to the chairman, not to the clerk.

Standing Order 23 of the urban district council read: "(1) The common seal of the council shall not be affixed to any document unless the sealing has been authorized by a resolution of the council or of a committee to which the council have delegated their powers . . . but a resolution of the council (or of a committee . . .) authorizing . . . the making of any . . . contract . . . shall be a sufficient authority for sealing any document necessary to give effect to the resolution. (2) The seal shall be attested by one at least of the following persons present at the sealing, viz the chairman or vice-chairman of the council or other member of the council, and the clerk or deputy clerk of the council . . ."

That standing order was not complied with in two respects: the sealing had not been authorized by the necessary resolution; and the seal had not been attested by either the chairman (or the vice-chairman or other member) of the council or the clerk (or deputy clerk) of the council being present at the sealing. But those defects, the first was serious, did not deprive the contract of its full force and effect "if otherwise valid".

Was it otherwise valid? The correct answer would seem to turn on the standing order and whether there was more wrong with the making of the amended contract then mere non-compliance with the standing order.

Mr Burnett submitted that a local authority must authorize a contract before it could be bound by it and an agent could not bind it to a contract to which it had not agreed; and that such a contract was invalid at common law.

If Mr Marson had made the contract with the association in writing but unsealed, he would not have been in breach of the standing order because it would not have been applicable. He would not have complied with the December 1973 resolution because the contract had ceased to be a fixed-price contract. The association would not enforce it against the council, not because it was not authorized by the standing order but because it was made contrary to the resolution. Why should the council be bound by a contract made contrary to the resolution by an unauthorized agent because it was sealed and the sealing had not been authorized?

It would be extraordinary, in the absence of any plea of estoppel or ratification, if sealing should have the effect of validating an invalid contract when all the standing order laid down was how sealing was to be authorized and carried out and all the proviso to section 266(2) permitted was that a person entering into a contract with a local authority should not be bound to inquire into compliance with its standing orders and such a contract should have full force and effect if non-compliance was all that was wrong with it.

The words "not otherwise valid" were wide enough to cover not merely voidable or illegal contracts duly authorized by resolution complying with the standing order, but contracts never made, agreed to or authorized by any resolution or at all. The proviso had no application to a case where the non-compliance with a standing order was not just a failure to obtain a resolution required by the order but was merely incidental to a deliberate contravention of the will and intention of the local authority expressed in a resolution. Then more was wrong with the contract than non-compliance with a standing order.

There was nothing in section *266 or the standing order* which bound the council to a contract which its predecessor never intended to make and which purported to be made by Mr Marson in the circumstances of the present case. His Lordship would allow the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE BRANDON said that the question whether Mr Marson had the actual or ostensible authority to agree to the price fluctuation clause was one of fact, depending on the evidence adduced before the judge in the court below.

The second question whether even if Mr Marson did not have such authority there nevertheless came into being between the council and the association a binding contract, was one of law, depending on the true meaning and effect of the proviso to section 266

So far as the first question was concerned, his Lordship agreed with the conclusion reached by Lord Justice Stephenson. So far as the second question was concerned, however, he had reached a conclusion opposite to that of Lord Justice Stephenson.

The manner in which it was contemplated by both parties that the council would enter into the contract in issue was by the contractual document being sealed and delivered on behalf of the council.

The seal of the council was affixed to the contractual document after the price fluctuation clause had been added to that document. The affixing of the seal appeared on the face of the document to have been done in the presence of the chairman of the council and its clerk, in that their signatures were written alongside the seal in the spaces provided for them, with a statement that the seal had been affixed in their presence.

In fact neither the affixing of the council's seal, nor the attestation of the seal by the two witnesses, complied with the two requirements of the standing order.

It was a well-established principle of law that, when a person signed a document which he knew to be of a contractual nature, he was bound by all the terms which the document contained, whether he had read, understood and approved such terms or not: *L'Estrange v Graucob* ([1934] 2 KB 394).

The same principle applied to a case where a person, knowing a document to be of a contractual nature, sealed and delivered it as his deed. It was in the light of that principle that his Lordship turned to consider the true meaning and effect of the proviso

The second part of the proviso dealt with cases in which a local authority entered into a contract without complying with one or more of the local authority's standing orders applicable to the making of such a contract. It provided that in such cases the contract would be binding on the local authority despite such non-compliance, if otherwise valid.

What then was meant, in the context in which it occurred, by the expression "otherwise valid"? In his Lordship's opinion, it meant valid apart from the failure to comply with the standing order or standing orders applicable, namely, valid if those orders had been complied with instead of not being complied with.

On the basis that that was the meaning of the expression "otherwise valid", what was the effect of the proviso on the facts of the present case? The effect must be that, if the contract would have been binding on the council if the two requirements of Standing Order 23 had been complied with, then *it was still binding on* the council even though those two requirements were not complied with.

Would the contract then have been binding on the council if the two requirements of the standing order had been complied with? In his Lordship's view, in accordance with the principles he discussed earlier, it clearly would have been so binding in respect of all its terms, including the additional price fluctuation clause, even though Mr Marson, who acted as the agent of the council in preparing the contractual document, did not have the authority of the council to include that clause.

The only circumstance which would, on the hypothesis concerned, have made the contract otherwise invalid, and so not binding on the *council, would* have been if it had been void as being ultra vires or illegal, or voidable as having been entered into in reliance on a fraudulent or innocent misrepresentation. There was no suggestion that any of these circumstances existed in the present case.

In the result, his Lordship agreed with the view of the judge that the effect of the proviso to section 266 was to make the whole contract, including the additional price fluctuation clause, binding on the urban district council, and therefore on its successor in title. It followed that he would affirm the judge's decision and dismiss the appeal.

Sir Stanley Rees delivered a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Stephenson in allowing the appeal.

The appeal was allowed with costs to the local authority, and a declaration was made that there was no express contract

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard & Co; Whitehouse, Gibson & Alton for McMorrans, Coalville, Leicester.

Discretion is limited by imposed duty

William Leech (Midlands) Ltd v Severn-Trent Water Authority

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Donaldson

[Judgment delivered *May 22*]

Where a water authority is required to provide a public sewer communicating with a sewer on private land, the authority's discretion as to the manner and place of communication does not entitle it to bring the public sewer on the *land* and leave the owner to link it with his sewer.

The Court of Appeal upheld a decision of Sir Douglas Frank, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court, that William Leech (Midlands) Ltd, owner of land abutting on Ordsall Road, Retford, Nottinghamshire, was entitled to have its sewer connected to a public sewer by the Severn-Trent Water Authority.

Section 16 of the Water Act, 1973, provides: "(1) It shall be the duty of a water authority to provide any public sewer to be used for domestic purposes for the drainage of premises in the area — . . . (b) if the owners of the premises require the authority to provide a public sewer for the drainage of new buildings . . . and the conditions mentioned in subsection (3) below are satisfied; . . .

"(3) . . . the conditions . . . are — (a) that the sewer which the owners of the premises require the water authority *to* provide is a sewer communicating (in such manner and in such place as the authority consider appropriate) with a *private* sewer provided by the owners;"

Mr Roy Vandermeer, QC, and Mr Harry Wolton for the water authority; Mr Gerald Moriarty, QC, and Mr John Grove for the owner.

LORD JUSTICE SHAW said that the appeal raised an important point as to the operation and effect of section 16.

In 1978, the owner proposed to erect dwelling-houses on the land and be addressed to the *authority, pursuant to section 16 (1)(b), a requisition requiring* provision of a public sewer for the drainage of the houses.

The private sewer laid by the owner to serve the new houses was near the southern boundary of the estate. The authority proposed to bring the public sewer to a different point at the boundary of the estate, contending that it had complied with section 16(3).

It was the words of section 16(3) in parenthesis on which the authority relied. It said that the duty imposed by section 16(1)(b) was fulfilled if it brought the sewer to such a place on the land as it considered appropriate"; and that how the private sewer discharged into the public sewer was the owner's concern.

The deputy judge was right in saying: "The words in brackets although appearing on the face of them to give the authority a wide discretion, must be construed as limited by the duty imposed by the section".

There was an overriding obligation on the authority to provide an effective public sewer communicating with a private sewer. The manner and place of communication were *placed* in the discretion of the authority so long as they provided "a communicating sewer" and not merely a sewer which the owner could cause to communicate with his sewer.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Donaldson and Lord Justice Stephenson agreed.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Mr John Stevenson, Sheldon, Birmingham; Gregory, Rowcliffe & Co for Mr T. G. W. Dinning, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Hook 'not part of machinery'

Mirza v Ford Motor Co Ltd

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice Brandon and Mr Justice Hollings) held that a safety hook with its moving safety device was not a part of any machinery within the meaning of section 14(1) of the Factories Act, 1961.

The court dismissed an appeal by the plaintiff from the decision of Mr Justice Ackner dismissing his claim for damages for personal injuries.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that the obligation imposed on employers by the section was not to make every dangerous part of machinery safe but to fence any dangerous part. Hooks on hoists were not the kind of machinery which any reasonable person would think of protecting by fencing or fixed guards.

Few family appeals in the list

Lord Justice Ormrod in the Court of Appeal made a statement approved by the Master of the Rolls on the present state of the list of appeals in family cases.

His Lordship said that there were only eight appeals from the Family Division, and five from the county courts which had not been given a date for the hearing of the appeal. Appeals of those kinds were likely to come into the list for hearing very quickly.

The court attached particular importance to hearing appeals relating to the future of children quickly. The clerk to the president of the court which heard those appeals had instructions to list such appeals for hearing as soon after setting down as possible.

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MOTORING

Mazda joins the battle of the boot

The appearance of a saloon version of the Mazda 323 from Japan only weeks after the car's debut in Britain as a hatchback will revive arguments about the respective merits of booted and tailgated models.

About five years ago, hatchbacks seemed to be carrying all before them. For small cars particularly, the tailgate, and its corollary, a rear seat that could be folded down to increase luggage space, seemed to offer decisive advantages over the traditional "three-box" design *with its separate boot.*

Certainly in the supermini class — the Ford Fiesta, Volkswagen Polo, Renault 5 and so on — a car without a rear door seemed unthinkable and the inspiration behind all these models, the Issigonis Mini, was frequently criticized for not having one. Sir Alec Issigonis's public retort was that you do not take a step ladder to the office, privately he conceded the point by designing a three-door Mini replacement as long ago as 1969.

The hatchback principle was not confined to small cars. The Rover, the Renault 20/30 and the Audi Avant all offer the rear door, although most models in *the so-called executive sector* have stuck to conventional boots. Perhaps executives are more conservative in their taste.

Lower down the market, though, hatchbacks became the new orthodoxy and car makers seemed tacitly to assume that motorists wanted them. Then Volkswagen decided to put the proposition to the test, carried out market research and found there was still a strong liking for booted cars.

VW's response was to take the Polo, put a boot on it, and create what to the casual glance was a new model. The Derby was so successful that for a time it outsold the Polo. VW repeated the process by turning the Golf into the Jetta and other car makers took up the idea. The hatchback Chrysler (now Talbot) Alpine spawned the Solara.

The responses of General Motors and Ford, who tend to be cautious in car design and to let others burn their fingers first, were awaited with interest. GM's replacement for the Kadett cleverly left the options open by offering a choice between a saloon and hatchback within the same bodyshell, although, since the shape was two-box rather than three, it ran the risk of alienating potential saloon customers.

In designing the new Escort, Ford decided that it should be a tailgated car, but then, apparently, had misgivings. At any rate, it has deliberately not been promoted as a hatchback. The squared back end, or "bustle", put in primarily as an aerodynamic aid, has helped to give the car something of a saloon look.

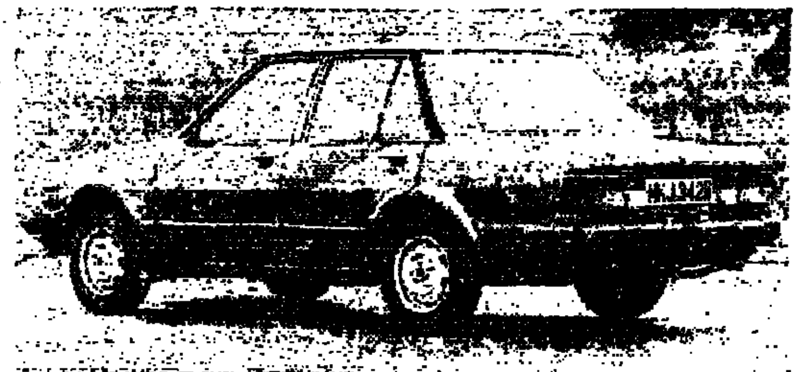
One of Ford's worries was that a hatchback would not appeal to the fleet market, which accounts for half of Escort sales. Fleet managers tend to prefer cars with boots, partly because that is where representatives carry their samples. Sales of the new Escort suggest, however, that any prejudice has been overcome.

The hatchback saloon argument can only be resolved in the market place by the customer exercising his choice. So far, on the figures, the hatchback would appear to be winning. Volkswagen, for instance, is making more than three times as many Golfs as Jettas and twice as many Polos as Derbys.

Talbot, last year, sold nearly twice as many Alpines in Britain as Solaras, though in recent months, thanks to an incentive campaign, the Solara has reversed the position. Vauxhall and Opel figures for sales in Britain of the Chevette, Kadett and Astra show the saloon and hatchback versions roughly equal.

My own instinct is to favour the practicality and versatility of the tailgated car. What people have against the hatchback is that they do not carry awkward loads very often, and if they do, they buy an estate, that a separate boot feels more secure; and that a saloon looks better, three boxes presenting a symmetry that two cannot.

And so to the Mazda 323 saloon, which is mechanically identical to the hatchback version I tested recently. It has a transverse engine driving the front wheels, rack and pinion steering, and all-independent suspension, which for a Japanese car is still an advanced specification. There is one model, with a 1300 cc engine, selling at £3,899.


Reviving arguments — the Mazda 323 saloon

Like the hatchback it is reasonably quiet, performs briskly, handles crisply and is excellent on fuel consumption, giving 33 to 40 mpg. I am less enthusiastic about the ride quality and despite front-wheel drive, the car is short on room in the back.

There is a good boot, albeit with a high lip over which luggage must be lifted, and this is one of the very few saloons which has folding rear seats so that boot space can be extended into the car. Moreover, as in the Metro, the seat splits two-thirds/one-third, enabling several combinations of people and luggage to be carried.

A look at maps

With the holidays approaching, the publishers of motoring maps are busy circulating their latest offerings. The trouble with such maps is that they are bound to be out of date before long, as new stretches of road are opened. This strengthens the case for buying paper maps, which are cheap, take up little room in the car, can be folded into any shape and thrown away at the end of the season.

Most of the petrol companies sell maps at filling stations. Shell's latest batch, the first restyling for 13 years, covers the United Kingdom in eight sections costing 55p each. They have a generous scale of one inch to three miles, a step fold system which makes for easy use in a car, and a clear, uncluttered layout. Limited access to motorways is clearly indicated and colours used to distinguish between single and dual carriageways. One small grumble is that railways, and stations, are not more prominently printed: they are useful landmarks.

Shell's cartographer, George Philip, also provides maps for the Royal Automobile Club and to my eyes they are among the most attractive, informative and easy to read. I particularly like the Navigator series of regional atlases, of which the one covering the East and West Midlands has just been published. It joins three other volumes, covering the north, south-east and the West Country.

Apart from the general maps, which are on the scale 1.6 miles to the inch, each atlas contains a selection of town plans, as well as fold out maps showing the location of places of interest, from churches and castles to zoos and wildlife. Each atlas costs £4.95 and there will be further volumes on East Anglia and North Wales. The RAC also publishes a single *Great Britain Road Atlas*, with essentially the same maps, on a scale of four miles to one inch (£6.25 hardback, £5.25 paperback).

The Philip maps turn up yet again in the new *Shell Touring Atlas*, an attractively produced hardback. The scale is smaller at five miles to one inch, possibly too small to be followed during a car journey. There are illustrated articles on the coast and countryside; on prehistoric and Roman Britain and other topics; and an area-by-area list of places to visit, with brief notes on each. The book costs £9.95.

The latest publication from the Automobile Association is the *Big Road Atlas of Britain*, big in the sense that each page measures 15 inches by 11. It is difficult to fit into the glove box but has the advantage of offering a large area of map at a time. The scale is four miles to one inch. I feel that the pale yellow background makes the maps less easy to read than the Philip ones; but railways are more boldly printed. A 96-page paperback, the alas costs a reasonable £2.95.

The AA has also issued the third edition of its splendid *Greater London Street Atlas*, which covers 1,500 square miles of the capital and its surrounds from Welwyn to Sevenoaks and from Windsor to Brentwood. The index contains 100,000 street names and although the atlas now costs £14.95, I think it is essential for anyone who makes regular car journeys in or around London.

Fuel saving plug

A plug that can save at least ten per cent on fuel consumption, reduce exhaust pollution by up to 70 per cent, improve starting and performance, and last longer must command attention. These claims are made for a Swiss product sold in Britain under the name Autoflash.

Autoflash works on the convector principle with a pre-combustion chamber. It creates a flash, rather than a spark, and burns more of the hydrocarbons in the fuel, which explains the better fuel consumption and lower exhaust emissions.

There are two provisos, which may put Autoflash beyond the reach of many do-it-yourself motorists: the plugs must be fitted properly, which means tightly, and the ignition must be advanced. A set of four plugs costs £15, plus VAT, or twice as much as conventional spark plugs, but they should soon pay for themselves. The Automobile Association is making independent tests.

Peter Waymark

(continued on page 26)

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 25

". . . But once more God will send us his spirit. The waste land will become fertile, and fields will produce rich crops."—Isaiah 32: 15 (G.N.B.).

BIRTHS

ARM.—On May 28, 1981, at R.A.F. Hospital, Nocton Hall, to Joy and Dr Jonathan Arm—a daughter (Hannah Rebecca), a sister to Jennifer.

BAILEY.—On June 3rd, at St Helier Hospital, to Sheran and Stephen—a son (Paul John).

BICKMORE.—On June 3rd, to Isabel and Peter—a daughter.

BRAY.—On 2nd June, 1981, at West London Hospital, to Pamela (nee Levison) and David—a daughter (Eliza Claire).

BREAKSPEAR.—On June 2nd, in Johannesburg, to Antonie (nee Barr) and Jonathan—a daughter, a sister for Bill.

BURGESS.—On June 3rd, at Chiswick, to Susan and David—a son, Edward David.

EATON.—On 28th May in the Johanniter Hospital, Bonn, West Germany, to Sylvia (nee White) and Martin—the gift of a son (Roger Simson John), a brother for Thomas and Caroline.

GREENWOOD.—On May 28th, 1981, at the Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer Street, W.1, to Ruth (nee Francis) and Richard—a son (Thomas).

GUEST.—On June 2nd at Queen Mary's Roehampton, to Carol (nee Reid) and David—a son (Richard Charles).

JENKINS.—On 2nd June, at the Middlesex Hospital, to Sharon Laura (nee Clegg) and Christopher—a daughter (Laura Mary).

LITTLEDALE.—On 30th May, to Louise and Bob—a third son (Edward Robert).

MINNITT.—On Wednesday, 3rd June, at St. Thomas', to Melanie (nee Boxford) and Michael—a daughter, a sister for Rebecca.

PARKINSON.—On Monday, 25th May, at Windsor, to Geraldine (nee Mullins) and Jonathan—a daughter, Elizabeth Geraldine.

RENDALL.—On June 3rd, to Sylvia and Edward—a son (Simon), brother for Tabitha and Charles.

TEMPERLEY.—On 26th May, to Deirdre (nee Tolmie) and Humphrey—a son (Edward John Tolmie), a brother for William.

URQUHART.—On June 3rd, to Annie and Peter, a daughter, a sister for Katie and James.

MARRIAGES

HORVATH : SMEDLEY.—Carol Lynne, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs H. A. Smedley, of Newbattle, Dalkeith, Scotland, to Gyula, third son of Mr and Mrs Horvath, of Zalaszentgroth, Hungary, on 6th June, 1981, at Morden Register Office, Morden, Surrey.

LANGTON : REID.—On Thursday 28th May at Chelsea Register Office Andrew to Carmle

LONG-PRICE : GERARD-PEARSE.—On Saturday, May 30th, at [illegible]

DEATHS

[illegible]

MEMORIAL SERVICE

[illegible]

IN MEMORIAM

[illegible]

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DAVID HOCKNEY prints and drawings.—See For Sales Today.

DAMSON WINE, HONEY BREAD.—Tempted ? See for Sale column.

THE MENCAP DERBY Draw results.—J. Pugh, of Warley, West Midlands—Shergar. [illegible]

[illegible]

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(continued on page 25)

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Norman Wisdom, Judi Dench, Fulton Mackay in the Playhouse production Going Gently (BBC 2, 9.30) which is adapted from the novel by Robert C. S. Downs. It is directed by Stephen Frears and also stars Stephanie Cole.

● Thomas Ellice's play GOING GENTLY (BBC 2, 9.30pm) is about dying and about death, the good night of Dylan Thomas's poem. Do not go gentle into it, he implored; rage, rage against the dying of the light. And rage they do, these two men in adjoining hospital beds as cancer burns their bodies and makes a mockery of the play's title. I really don't know what to say about this Playhouse production. I cannot unreservedly recommend it because I am positive it will depress or upset a lot of people and probably appal just as many more.

● Campaigners for euthanasia will welcome Going Gently as an eloquent vindication of their cause. Those who have had reason to condemn the way hospital staff treat the terminally sick will quote it and say: we told you so. It is a play with no moment of light relief or hint of kindness, and the only thing in it to lift the spirits is the occasional shaft of sunlight in the hospital corridors. It is acted with almost too much realism by Norman Wisdom — whose success in a dramatic role comes as a complete surprise — and by Fulton Mackay who has long ago ceased to surprise me because his versatility seems to know no bounds.

● WALTZ OF THE TOREADORS (BBC 1, 10.50) was made in 1962, a year which saw two Peter Sellers films that were adapted from another medium. Only Two Can Play, was fashioned from the Kingsley Amis novel and was highly acclaimed. Toreadors was a re-working, by Wolf Mankowitz, of the Anouilh play and was more icily received — not, however, because Mr Sellers's performance as the lecherous general was thought to be below standard (it is, in fact, one of his most resonant roles), but because Mr Mankowicz had substituted banana skins for the rapier thrusts in the play. Visually, the film offers many compensations, including the enchanting Dany Robin.

● My radio choices for the day: The final part of John Russell Brown's invaluable series on contemporary playwrights, Drama Up to Now (Radio 4, 4.15) . . . Any Questions? (Radio 4, 8.30) which fields an unusually strong team Michael Foot, John Pardoe, Norman St John-Stevas and Lady Howe . . . John Graham's farcical comedy A Surfeit of Smiths (Radio 4, 3.02) in which that old hotel joke about Mr and Mrs Smith checking in is mined for every last ounce of gold . . . .The BBC Northern SO playing Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra (Radio 3, 1.05).

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: The Split Screen; 7.05 Language development; 7.30 North Sea Oil.

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Descubra: España; 10.15 Capricorn Game (serial); 10.35 Going to Work (self-employed); 11.02 Hyn-o-Fyd.

11.25 You and Me: for the very young.

12.05 For Schools, Colleges: Housing estate design. Closedown at 12.10.

1.15 News and weather; 1.30 Mr Benn: Cowboy. Closedown at 1.45.

2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Reggae Roots; Closedown at 2.22.

3.25 Trem: Yr Alarch; 3.55 Play School: Mr Archimedes' Bath; 4.20 Captain Caveman; 4.30 The Humpbacked Pony: Cartoon film about a flying pony: 5.20 Newsround Extra: A news item of interest to the young, intelligent viewer;

5.35 Paddington: A Spot of Decorating.

5.40 News: with Richard Whitmore; 5.55 Regional news magazines; 6.20 Nationwide: Including the gardening item and Sportswide (at 6.45).

7.00 Tom and Jerry: Dog Trouble.

7.10 It's a Knockout: From Whitby, Yorkshire. The competing teams are from Whitby itself, Filey and Hull.

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight: With Bernie Winters, Grace Kennedy and Jimmy Aleck.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took comments on viewers' letters; 9.00 News: with Richard Whitmore.

9.25 Knots Landing: Richard Avery (John Pleshette) puts his own career on the line.

10.15 Public School: Fifth in this series about Radley College. Some preparatory work by the parents of scholarship boys (from BBC 2).

10.45 News headlines.

10.50 Film: Waltz of the Toreadors (1962) John Guillermin's film version of the Jean Anouih's stage comedy about an amorous ex-general (Peter Sellers) whose way to the heart of a pretty French girl (Dany Robin) is barred by his wife (Margaret Leighton). With John Frazer, Cyril Cusack, Prunella Scales. Film ends at 12.35. (See Personal Choice.)

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 1.30-1.45 pm Bys A Bawd 3.25-3.55 Closedown. 5.20-5.40 Gari Gylifer. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.10-7.35 Heddiw. 7.35-8.00 Trem. 10.15-11.05 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-12.35 am Film: Universal Soldier (George Lazenby) 12.35 Close. Scotland 11.00-11.25 am Closedown. 1.10-1.15 pm News. 3.25-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 The Beechgrove Garden. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.35 am Close. Northern Ireland 11.00-11.25 am Closedown 3.25-3.53 pm Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six 10.15-10.45 Rock in the City 10.45-10.50 News. 12.35 am News. Close. England, 5.55-6.20 pm Regional news magazines: 10.15-10.45 East: Weekend. Midlands: College Rags '81. North: Chopper Trials North East: Counter Revolution. North West: Sweet and Sour South: It Could Happen To You. South West: According To Hoyle. West: Public Life: The Housing Jungle. 12.35 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Intramolecular Re-arrangements. 7.05 Maths; Cycles. 7.30 The Derived Function.

11.00 Play School: Same as BBC1, 3.55 (Mr Archimedes' Bath). Closedown at 11.25

4.50 pm Open University: William Tyndale. 5.15 Materials under Stress. 5.40 Adolf Loos. 6.05 At the Hawk's Well. 6.30 Mining.

6.55 Junior Pot Black: Sixth programme — the last two qualifying games for the semi-finals. John Keers (North East and Scotland (under 16) champion) versus John Parrott (finalist 1980 British Boys Championship): and Dean Reynolds (Lincs and South Humberside Junior Champion) versus Dene O'Kane (Auckland Champion 1980).

7.40 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.50 Impressions: Dennis Mitchell film about Tull George who has packed his life with activity since his retirement.

8.00 Gardeners' World: Early potatoes and the planting of winter greens and leeks; and the sowing of house plants.

8.25 New Jobs for Old? Newsweek film about what can be done to replace declining industries with new ones that will provide work for the jobless. A report by David Jessel.

9.00 Call my Bluff: Game for poker-faced players. The teams are made up from Arthur Marshall, Pamela Stephenson, Anthony Valentine, Frank Muir, Hannah Gordon and Clive James. With Robert Robinson as MC.

9.30 Playhouse: Going Gently. Robert C. S. Downs's novel about two men dying of cancer in hospital has been adapted by Thomas Ellice. It stars Norman Wisdom and Fulton Mackay as the patients, and Judi Dench as the day nurse. (See Personal Choice.)

10.40 Deborah Shah: A performance of Debussy's piano work Feux d'artifice.

10.45 Newsnight: news and analysis.

11.30 A World of Jazz: With Mel Lewis Big Band, Dexter Gordon with Hampton Hawes and Kenny Clarke, and Champion Jack Dupree.

11.55 The Outer Limits: Specimen Unknown. Science fiction thriller about a weather satellite attacked by a plant spore. With Steven McNally, Richard Jaeckel, Gail Kobe. Ends at 12.50 am

Thames

9.30 For Schools: German lesson; 9.58 Alive and kicking; 10.15 French lesson; 10.38 Canal clues; 11.02 Ironbridge Gorge Museum; 11.14 Lenny the Lion; 11.26 Maths; 11.43 Armou (for the hard of hearing).

12.00 The Magic Ball: story of the Eskimo; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: The Sack of Leaves.

12.30 Supersavers: Do your own plumbing; 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish estate serial. Dinner invitation for Alice and Morag.

2.00 Houseparty: The magazine that deals with home topics.

2.25 Racing: From Epsom the 2.35 3.10 and 3.40.

3.50 Superstar Profile: Interview with Liza Minnelli; 4.20 Watch It! the Adventures of Black Beauty: Cicely Eglington is in gaol. Kevin and Albert try to help her; 4.45 Get it Together: pop show, with Andy Fairweather Low, Carlene Cartier, Rockpile.

5.15 Sale of The Century: with Nicholas Parsons and big prizes.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news; 6.30 Thames Sport: The prospects for the weekend.

London Weekend

7.00 Winner Takes All: New series begins. General knowledge quiz, hosted by Jimmy Tarbuck.

7.30 Return of the Saint: Re-run of this adventure series starring Ian Ogilvy as Simon Templar. Tonight, dirty work in the Alps (r).

8.30 Misfits: Newcomedy series, about the effect two young drifters has on the life of a divorced woman. With Anne Stallybrass, Enn Reitel and Kevin Lloyd.

9.00 The Professionals: Bodie (Lewis Collins) is besieged in a vicarage with a terrorist for company.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Till Death . . . : Economics lecture from Alf Garnett, to a captive audience (Dandy Nichols, Patricia Hayes).

11.00 The London Programme: The Loan Sharks. An investigation into loan companies that lend out money at phenomenally high rates of interest. Includes an interview with Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, and advice on where peope can obtain legitimate loans at fair rates of interest.

11.35 Have girls, Will Travel: The TV reporters (Priscilla Barnes and Debra Clinger) are abducted by a group of bodybuilders.

12.30 Close: A reading by Jane Lapotaire.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News.
6.10 Farming.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.†
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story.
11.00 News.
11.05 Fortune and the Fishmonger.
11.50 Birds of the Week.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 My Music.†
1.00 News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Afternoon Theatre.
4.05 Down the Garden Path.
4.15 Drama Up To Now: drama in Britain since the war.
4.45 Story Time.†
5.00 PM: News Magazine.
6.00 The Six o'Clock News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile: Bill Ellis.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'The Sea Wolf' (10).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Miles Kington.
12.00 News.

VHF
9.35-10.00 For Schools: Country Dancing; Notice Board; Music Workshop.
10.30 Listen with Mother. 11.00-11.40 For Schools: Meet the French; Notice Board; Listening and Writing; Music interlude.
2.00-2.40 pm For Schools: Let's Join In; Religious Education; Music interlude.
5.50 PM.
11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Campus Radio; Euromagazine II; Edicion Espanola.
12.00 Close.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning concert.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning concert (continued) Telemann, Schumann, Purcell, Hahn.
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Chausson.†
10.00 Violin and Piano recital: Bach, Schoenberg, Schubert.†
10.55 BBC Northern Singers.†
11.15 Dartington String Quartet recital.†
12.05 pm BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra concert, part 1.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Concert part 2.
1.50 Jessye Norman: Song recital.†
2.35 Schubert recital. †
3.25 Humphrey Procter-Gregg: Viola and piano recital.
4.20 Music from the reign of Louis XIII: Tenor and lute recital.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again.†
7.00 Third Opinion: reflections on current affairs.†
7.30 Gli Orazi ed I Curiazi: Opera by Cimarosa.†
8.40 Interval.
8.50 Gli Orazi ed I Curiazi: Act 2.
10.05 Poetry Now.
10.30 Schnittke: Concert.†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Egon Petri: piano.

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Altarpiece Theme; Music in the Jewish Religion; British Intelligence Scale.
11.15 pm-12.55 am Open University: Organic Chemistry; Chemists and the Oceans; Europe: Conflict and Stability 1870-1914; Why Systems Software?; Modelling Social Systems.

Radio 2

5.00 am Ray Moore.† 7.30 David Hamilton.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 John Dunn.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart Show.† 4.00 Steve Jones.† 5.45 News and Sport. 6.00 David Symonds.† 8.00 Jim MacLeod and his Band.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.00 The Grumbleweeds. 10.30 Fiesta! 11.00 Brian Matthew.† 1.00 a.m. Truckers' Hour.† 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Peter Powell. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 10.00 Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours News Summary. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections 8.15 The Maid of the Mill 8.30 Act One. 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 Assignment. 11.00 World News 11.09 News about Britain 11.15 In the Meantime 11.25 Ulster Newsletter 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. News Summary. 1.30 Behind the Throne 2.15 Letterbox 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Science in Action 7.45 About Britain 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours News Summary 8.30 Act One 9.00 Network UK 9.15 Time Off 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Round-up 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies 11.30 The Adventures of Harry Richmond. 12.00 World News 12.09 am News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook 1.45 The Maid of the Mill. 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Fifty Years of the Royal Ballet. 4.45 Financial News 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.45 The World Today

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

ATV

As London except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 In Search of . . . Coming Ice Age. 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.30 WKRP in Cincinnati. 11.00 News. 11.05-12.55 am Film: Gone With the West (James Cann)

Southern

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News, 3.50-4.20 Story of Wine. 6.00 Day by Day; 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 10.35 Barry Westwood Talkabout. 11.20 SOAP. 11.50 Film: Company Limited (Barun Chanda), 1.55 am Weather followed by God in Hastings.

Granada

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.50-4.20 Survival 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Doctor Down Under. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 SOAP. 11.30 Darts World Knockout Cup. 12.05 am After all that. This. 12.15-1.40 Film: Witchcraft (Lon Chaney, Jnr).

Tyne Tees

As London except: 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 3.50-4.20 Wild. Wild World of Animals. 5.15-5.45 Clapperboard. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.30 News 10.32 Friday Live 12.00 Welcome Back, Kotter. 12.30 am-12.35 Countryside Christian.

Westward

As London except 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 Russell Flint 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.32 News. 10.35 Lou Grant. 11.30 Superstar Profile: William Holden. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

HTV

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 George Hamilton IV. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.28 News, 10.35 Show Extra. 11.05 SOAP. 11.35-12.35 am Danger UXB.

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.35 am-9.50 Mwy Neu Lai. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.45-5.15 Gwylwyr yr Haul. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.05 Outlook.

Channel

As London except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 Russell Flint. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 Laurel and Hardy*. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.28 News. 10.36 Lou Grant. 11.30-12.00 Superstar Profile: William Holden.

Grampian

As London except: 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 Target, the Impossible. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Benson. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.30 Film. Corruption (Peter Cushing, Sue Lloyd). 12.10 am-12.15 News.

Scottish

As London except: 1.20 pm News 1.30-2.00 Andy's Party 3.30-4.20 Mr & Mrs 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Sports Extra. 6.30-7.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. 7.30-8.30 BJ & The Bear 10.30 Ways & Means 11.00 Late Call. 11.05-12.30 am Film: Foreign Exchange (Robert Horton, Sebastian Cabot).

Yorkshire

As London except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 Andy's Party. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Summer Sport. 7.30-8.30 Hawaii Five-O. 10.30 Benson. 11.00 Crown Green Bowling. 11.30-12.25 am Lou Grant.

Ulster

As London except 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.50 Andy's Party. 4.13 News. 4.15-4.20 Cartoon 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Welcome back Kotter. 7.30-8.30 Vegas 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Struck by Lightning. 11.05 Golfing Greats 11.35 Bedtime, followed by Closedown.

Border

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 Wild. Wild World of Animals. 6.00 Lookaround 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 7.30-8.30 Vegas. 10.30 Your MP. 11.00 SOAP. 11.30 News. 11.23 Closedown.

Anglia

As London except 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.50-4.20 Entertainers. Dana. 5.15-5.45 Winner Takes All. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 WKRP in Cincinnati. 11.00 Members Only 11.30 Film: Trilogy of Terror (Karen Black) 12.55 am Your Choice

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

THEATRES

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ART GALLERIES

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Classified Guide

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Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.:
Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn. 7180

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The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day. i.e. Monday is the deadine for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication; for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

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Councils at risk over spending, minister says

From Christopher Warman, Bournemouth

The end of local government in its existing form was a real risk, Mr Tom King, Minister of State for Local Government and Environmental Services, said in Bournemouth yesterday.

Addressing the annual conference of the Chartered Institute of Finance and Accountancy, he said that the threat to local government had come about because of the remorseless march of circumstances rather than from any action by ministers.

Mr King's declaration was the sharpest indication yet that the Government will tolerate neither the failure of local authorities to keep their spending within Government guidelines nor the levying of excessive rate increases.

The audience of senior financial officers in local government and the public sector and elected councillors was shocked by his blunt warning.

Local government leaders have for some time been saying that Government controls are increasingly threatening local government's freedom but this is the first time that a minister has publicly acknowledged that local government is facing just that possibility.

Mr King insisted that the Government was not "hell bent" on a takeover bid from the Department of the Environment and there were few civil servants who did not view the prospect with anything but horror. He himself was philosophically, morally and ethically against any further centralization of local government in Whitehall.

He said the simple reason why the Government was asking councils to revise their budgets was because they were budgeting to spend more than the country could afford.

"The Government has the inescapable duty to determine the overall levels of public expenditure of which local government expenditure is such an important part. Nor is this in any way some novel doctrine and to their credit all the leaders of local government to whom I have ever spoken have always accepted that this must be so."

Mr King said they must not ignore the fact that central government contributed some 60 per cent of council spending. The Government could not be disinterested in the position of business and commercial ratepayers, who paid 58 per cent of local authority rates but had no voice in determining local spending plans.

Local authorities were proposing to spend in cash terms £1,250m more than the overall target which was equivalent to an extra 18p on everyone's rates or £35 on every average domestic rate bill.

"It will mean higher public borrowing, with the risk of higher interest rates and higher inflation than would otherwise have been the case."

Mr King said many people believed it was time for a fundamental upheaval in local government. There were forces at work, reflected in the views of newspapers, that would like to see a total change and a different structure for local government.

He was a believer in public expenditure and if this country had been achieving the rate of growth of Japan or West Germany perhaps it could have afforded further spending. "But for the next few years the times will not be normal. The crisis that faces us is infinitely more serious than any we have faced over the past 20 years."

Mr King said that with that grim background it was utterly unrealistic to believe that somehow local government could be shielded. He asked whether in the new situation the voluntary system of cooperation between central and local government could stand the strain.

"Are we willing to manage with less or are we going to end in a political dogfight and the only real losers will be the people we seek to serve?"

Mr King said the coming months would determine the future relationship between the central and the local government. He emphasized that he had a nasty feeling that if changes had to be made then whatever they were they would tend to stick.

"If even at this stage local government put forward proposals that can achieve the necessary results albeit in a different way we would be more than willing to consider them. Together what we have to do is to ensure that these targets are met".

The reaction of the audience was less violent than might be expected in the face of such a threat of doom.

Mr Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth Council in London, told Mr King that it was not good enough to say that the Government had no wish to take over local government when it was taking every measure to remove the independence of local government.

Lothian's grant cut, page 4

Thatcher snubs defence chiefs

By Peter Hennessy

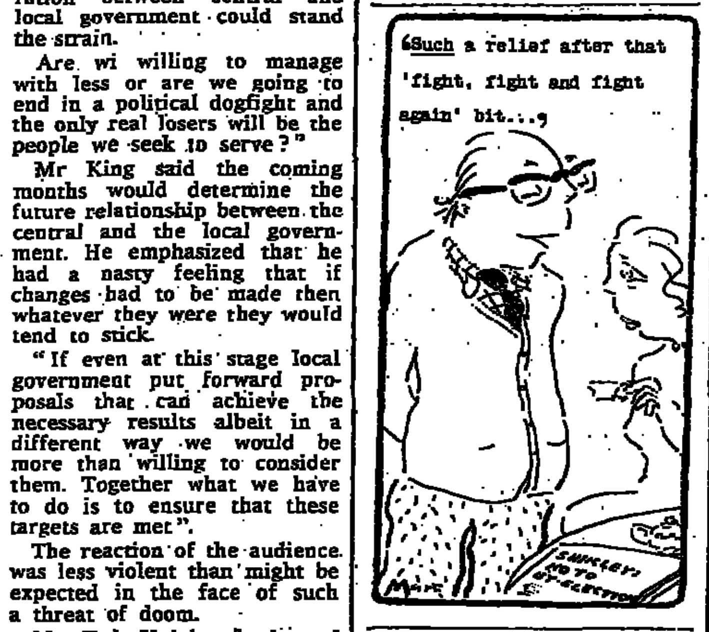
The chiefs of staff have not been invited to the meeting at 10 Downing Street on Monday at which Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, will present his defence review to the Cabinet's Oversea and Defence Committee. The gathering will be chaired by the Prime Minister.

There will be a special meeting of the full Cabinet on June 17 to approve details of Britain's new-look, scaled-down defence programme. A second special Cabinet has been called for the following day to hold a wide-ranging discussion of general economic strategy.

By tradition the chiefs of staff have attended meetings of the Oversea and Defence Committee when defence matters have been on the agenda. Since the Conservatives came to power, however, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, as part of her attempt to build up the status of the Chief of the Defence Staff relative to the other three, has often invited Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin on his own.

The absence of all four on Monday will inject another dose of nervous tension into the already fraught armed services, especially the Navy and Army departments, whose budgets are expected to bear the brunt of economies.

Defence review background, page 4



ASKEY ILL

Arthur Askey, the comedian, who was 81 last Saturday, was admitted to Hammersmith hospital, London, yesterday after collapsing with kidney trouble on Wednesday in Great Yarmouth. Last night he was said to be "quite cheerful".



Lady Diana Spencer with the Prince of Wales, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret outside St Margaret's Church, Westminster, yesterday after the marriage of the Hon Nicholas Soames and Miss Catherine Weatherall. The Prince was best man. (Wedding group, page 16.)

SDP set to field 300 candidates

Continued from page 1

Mr Alec McGivan, at present the party's secretary, Mr John Lyttle, the present press officer, and Mr Roger Liddle, a former political adviser to Mr William Rodgers, one of the party's leaders, are regarded as the front-runners for those three jobs.

Mr Doyle's first task will be to get to grips with the organization of the SDP. Several members of the party's organization committee have been critical of that aspect of its affairs and there have been complaints that the collective leadership and MPs have tended to neglect it.

□ The SDP is set to field at least 300 candidates at the next general election, Mr Rodgers said yesterday (Our Political Staff writes).

The Liberals and SDP should fight every seat in the country, dividing thm between the two parties, he said.

Mr Rodgers, speaking in Manchester, caled for early discussions between the parties to arrive at a fair division of seats. He said: "Warrington is the opportunity to demonstrate that Social Democrats and Liberals can work confidently in partnership."

□ Labour Party leaders in the North-west are believed to be keeping open options about recommending an early date for the Warrington by-election which some of them believe could be held on July 23 (John Chartres writes from Manchester).

A stronger probability however is for a date in September because the name of the new Labour candidate to replace Sir Thomas Williams who has retired will not be announced until June 21.

Leading article, page 15
Letters, page 15

Breakthrough claim for anti-viral drug

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

An important breakthrough against virus diseases like shingles, chicken pox, some eye infections and the ubiquitous herpes was disclosed yesterday. An Anglo-Belgian team of university research scientists announced that a discovery of a new anti-viral compound had been patented and would be developed in Britain.

A leading biochemist said last night that the compound was the equivalent of penicillin related to the virus field.

Research in England has been done at Birmingham University's chemistry department by a team directed by Professor Stanley Jones and Dr Richard Walker. They collaborated with Professors E. De Clercq and P. De Somer at the Rega Institute, at Leuven University, Belgium.

Both universities have taken out patents and signed a licence for its development by the pharmaceutical company G. D. Searle and Co Ltd, which has a leading molecular biology research team at High Wycombe and manufacturing facilities at Morpeth, Northumberland.

Both teams were due to return home today from a conference about their discovery held at Nice. Professor Geoffrey Gilbert, professor of biochemistry at Birmingham University, said last night: "It is an amazing development and in my view it is the equivalent of penicillin in the virus field.

"It is the sort of end product that could only happen as a result of university research. It is unlikely it would have been done in industry and that should be remembered, with all the financial pressure on areas like this in the universities of this country."

Professor Jones started the Nucleic Acid Research Group at Birmingham in 1950, and was joined by Dr Walker as a graduate student nine years later. Since then much of their work has been directed towards the synthesis of polynucleotide analogues and investigations into the chemistry of nucleic acid constituents with the long-term aim of increasing knowledge of the properties of these gene constituents.

A statement from Birmingham University last night said: "This was quickly shown to be the most potent and selective agent against certain herpes viruses yet known and, to date, despite an extensive search, nothing better has been found.

"In particular recent studies carried out under the guidance of Professor De Clercq at the Rega Institute have shown that the compound is highly efficacious against the viruses causing diseases like cold sores, chicken pox, shingles and certain viral eye infections.

Our Science Editor writes: The development time of turning a discovery of this type into a marketable drug could take from five to 10 years, provided the substance passes the safety screening and testing procedure of the Committee of Safety in Medicines.

Sir Charles set to fight another day for Savoy

By Philip Robinson

Sir Charles Forte now looks certain to lose his £67m takeover battle for the Savoy Hotel group, headed by Sir Hugh Wontner. But, if he does, Sir Charles says he will try again next year.

Sir Hugh, who indicated earlier this week that he might be nearing retirement, retorted: "I would never leave Savoy in the lurch."

Sir Charles announced yesterday that holders of 37.8 per cent of the Savoy A shares and 7.7 per cent of the B shares had accepted the offer.

However, stripping out the interests of the Kuwait Investment Office, which has supported Sir Charles from the outset, acceptance of the THF offer came from holders with 3.2 per cent of the A and 0.4 per cent of the B shares. The offer has been extended until next Friday to allow more acceptances.

Over the 13 weeks that the battle has raged between the two septegenarian chairmen, THF has been buying every Savoy share it can through the stock market. With the purchases it has made it now controls the equivalent of 39.4 per cent of the equity and 37.2 per cent of the votes.

That is not enough to win control. It has now stopped buying in the market and was locked in a meeting with S. A. Warburg its merchant bank advisers last night to decide its next move.

For Savoy shareholders the decision is crucial. If THF decides not to buy any more in the market and thus loses the battle, the Savoy shares would drop back sharply. If they do, then those shareholders who may have wavered could sell the shares through the market and take the money whether the bid succeeds or fails. Those who have accepted the THF offer would merely get their acceptances returned.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

The Queen arrives East Midlands airport, 11 am, later, as Visitor, visits University of Nottingham to mark its centenary, 11.35 am, later, opens new civic buildings of the Bassetlaw district council, Worksop, 3.40 pm.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) visits depot, The Prince of Wales' Division to take the passing out parade, Lichfield, 10.30 am.

Talks, lectures

Piero della Francesca by Colin Wiggins, National Gallery, 1 pm.

The Greek Infantryman by Anton Powell, 11.30 am; The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus by M. Lyttelton, 1.15 pm; British Museum.

Celebrities on the South Bank II—Elizabeth Söderstrom talks to Charles Osborne with recorded musical illustrations, Waterloo room, South Bank, 6.15 pm.

Carl Andre: Equivalent VII ("The Bricks") by Simon Wilson, Tate Gallery, 1.

Exhibitions

Cherryl Fountain, and Margaret Neve, New Grafton Gallery, 42 Old Bond Street, 10 am-6 pm.

Norman Gilbert, Drain Galleries, 7 Porchester Place, 10 am-5 pm.

Being Disabled: An exhibition of work and activities of disabled people, E. M. Flint Gallery, above Central Library, Lichfield Street, Walsall, 10 am-6 pm.

Butterflies and Wildflowers in Watercolours by Gwen Norman, George Gregory Gallery, 8 Green Street, Bath, 10 am-5.30 pm.

Open Air Art Exhibition, Royal Avenue, Chelsea, 11 am-6 pm.

David Hockney — paintings and drawings for the French triple bill at the Metropolitan Opera House New York, Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, 12-8.

Exhibitions of political cartoons, prints, caricatures, drawings and paintings by Richard Cole, the Heffer Gallery, Sidney Street, Cambridge, 9-5.30 pm.

Marriage exhibition with flower festival, Leicester Cathedral, St. Martins, Leicester, Leicestershire. 10 am-4 pm.

Comic Mart: comics, books, film magazines, posters for collectors and enthusiasts, Central Hall, Westminster; 12-5 pm.

Dracula, mime version by Theatre Whispers, Battersea arts centre, 7.30.

William Anderson reads his poems, Richmond Adult College, 8 pm.

Lunchtime music

Tom Emlyn Williams and Paul Brompy, counter-tenors, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 1.10 pm.

Spitalfields Festival: Scottish Baroque Ensemble perform works by Bartok, Bach and Mendelssohn, Christ Church Spitalfields, Commercial street, 1 pm.

Parliament

Commons (9.30): Motion on Members' salaries and allowances. Lords (11): Industrial Diseases (Notification) Bill, Horserace Betting Levy Bill, and Disabled Persons (No 2) Bill, second readings.

Today's anniversaries

Lord Kitchener lost his life when HMS Hampshire struck a mine off the Orkneys, 1916; Adam Smith, political economist, was born at Kirkaldy, 1723, and John Maynard Keynes, economist, was born at Cambridge, 1883.

Roads

London and the South-east: A1—The outside lane of the London-bound carriageway will be closed from 6.30 am until 5 pm. The section affected is at Rowley Lane Bridge (A5135 Elstree Way). Special arrangements to cope with extra traffic at Epsom have been made but congestion is likely on the A24 Worthing road and the A217 Brighton road.

Midlands: M6—There is major construction work in the Walsall area and various lanes in both directions are closed. Northbound entry and exit at Junction 9 (Wednesbury) is shut as is the southbound entry from 7 am until 9.30 am at Junction 11 (Wolverhampton). Long delays are likely on the A1 at Stangate Hill in Cambridgeshire where the nearside northbound lane is closed.

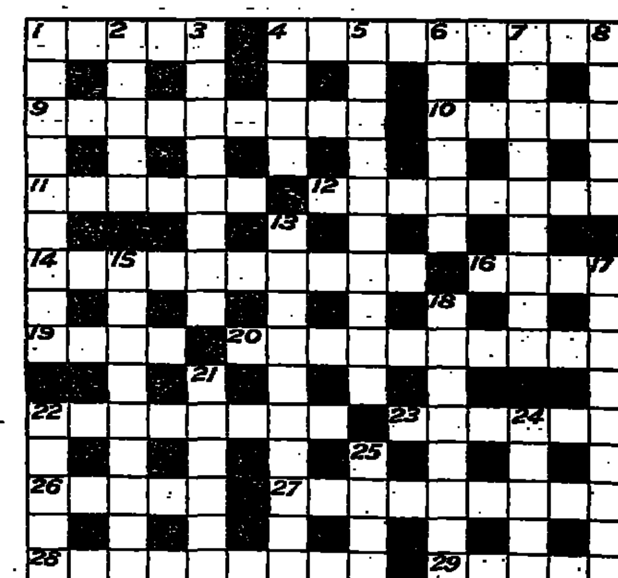
North: M1—Only one lane is open both north and southbound between Junction 30 (A616 Chesterfield) and Junction 32 (M18 the North). The outside lane is closed at Thurcroft near the M1/M18 junction.

Wales and the West: In Devon the A35 is reduced in width near the junction with the B3165 at Hunter Lodge and long delays are likely. Temporary traffic lights are operating on the A40 between Raglan and Abergavenny.

Scotland: There will be delays and diversions on the A7 through Hawick from 8.30 am to 10 am and between 4 pm and 5 pm.

Inquiries to Automobile Association on 01-954 7373.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,544



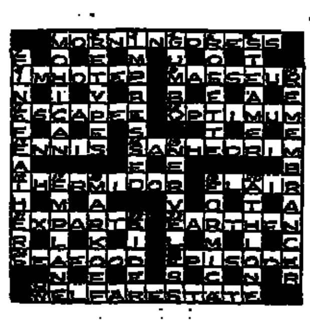
ACROSS

1 Priam's unmarried and unruly son (5).
4 Commissions foul defenders (9).
9 One record reversed by Tom in river? Clarify (9).
10 Many deer back in this sort of marsh (5).
11 Art making money, said he. (6).
12 Demonstrate the meaning of X (8).
14 Hypnotic effect of silence, with new moon in one's place (10).
16 Put back this pan (4).
19 Wherewith to shoot a garden raider? (4).
20 Marker's dud version of Newbolt's work (6, 4).
22 Taking a turn at importing? (8).
23 Intelligence man, right to dry up (6).
26 "Stealing and giving — !" (T. Night) (5).
27 Act I lines sadly lacking in flexibility (9).
28 But not when Trappists receive their prizes (6, 3).
29 Those happenings after winter—spring's beginnings. (5).

DOWN

1 Ladies, with looks, about to be with Caesar (9).
2 Tearaway's Yorkshire home. (5).
3 In bloomers, builder's help appears slovenly (8).
4 Sharp-sounding player (4).
5 Tasty dish, or picture of one? (10).
6 Show-biz man, one who wrote "The Fleet's In" (6).
7 The gallant Albert (9).
8 Distinction that can be got over, we hear (5).
13 Remember thinking of Teddy? (4, 2, 4).
15 What might take Felix to Cornwall (9).
17 Biographical sketches by Lear (9).
18 Candidate, for instance, with virtuous bombast (8).
21 Gothic character about wings one Conservative (6).
22 Paul, say, cuts ready-made clothes (5).
24 That could be a Carroll fellow (5).
25 A painter many see (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,543



The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.79	1.72
Austria Sch	34.75	32.65
Belgium Fr	81.00	77.00
Canada $	2.44	2.35
Denmark Kr	15.32	14.62
Finland Mkk	9.05	8.65
France Fr	11.46	10.96
Germany DM	4.87	4.63
Greece Dr	116.00	110.00
Hongkong $	11.20	10.60
Ireland Pt	1.33	1.27
Italy Lit	2375.00	2275.00
Japan Yn	466.00	440.00
Netherlands Gld	5.41	5.15
Norway Kr	11.95	11.35
Portugal Esc	126.00	120.00
South Africa Rd	2.15	2.00
Spain Pta	187.50	178.50
Sweden Kr	10.35	9.80
Switzerland Fr	4.32	4.10
USA $	2.02	1.95
Yugoslavia Dnr	76.00	71.00

Rates for small denomination bank-notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Stock Markets

Tokyo: Another setback as high-priced and giant capital shares went down in light trading. The Nikkei Dow Jones index lost 67.34 points to decline to 7,413.24 at the close. Hongkong: A weaker close on general profit-taking after the hectic rise. The Hang Seng index fell 30.70 points to 1,681.17. Paris: Heavy selling of oil stocks pulled other stocks lower. The market indicator showed a decline of 1 per cent when trading came to an end. Zurich: The market moved slightly higher, continuing its recovery.

London gold: 462.50 dollars, down 1.25 dollars. London silver: spot 513.20, fall 8.00.

The FT index closed up 8.9 at 555.6.

Eating al fresco

The following London restaurants now serve alfresco meals:

Bagatelle, 5 Langton St, SW10, 01-351 4185; Brinkley's, 47 Hollywood Road, SW10, 01-351 1683; Chanterelle, 119 Old Brompton Rd, SW7, 01-373 5522; Le Chef, 41 Connaught Street, W2, 01-262 5945; Le Detour, 5 Campden Hill Rd, W8, 01-937 9602; Four Seasons, 69 Barnsbury St, N1, 01-607 0857; Hungry Horse, 196 Fulham Road, SW10, 01-352 7757; Paulo's, 28 Wellington St, 01-240 1919; San Lorenzo Fuoriporta, 38 Worple Rd Mews, SW10, 01-946 8463; Wild Thyme, 96 Felsham Rd., SW15, 01-789 3323.

The following will start soon—please ring for further information: L'Aubergade, 816 Finchley Rd, NW11, 01-455 8853; Frederick's, Camden Passage, N1, 01-359 2888; Luigi's, 129 Gypsy Hill, SE19, 01-670 1843.

Al fresco restauraunts outside London will be covered in future weeks.

The papers

The Birmingham Post today describes the decision of the jury at the Central Criminal Court to clear two armed raiders of attempting to murder Constable Philip Olds as unaccountable There will be a wave of public opinion in favour of the police. And the Morning Telegraph, Sheffield, welcoming the new Railbus, says the benefits could be low fares and more frequent services.

The New York Times yesterday said that President Reagan has approved a new policy for the Caribbean and Central America that calls for increased economic and military assistance to combat poverty and to counter alleged Cuban and Soviet subversion. An editorial in The Washington Post dismisses the latest moves by Congress to make federally-funded abortions more difficult to obtain.

Sporting fixtures

Cricket: County championships (11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0): Hampshire v Middlesex, at Basingstoke; Lancashire v Surrey, at Manchester; Nottinghamshire v Gloucestershire, at Nottingham; Sussex v Somerset, at Hove; Warwickshire v Northamptonshire, at Birmingham; Worcestershire v Glamorgan, at Hereford; Yorkshire v Essex, at Leeds. Other match: Oxford University v Leicestershire, at Oxford. Tennis: French Open championships, at Roland Garros, Paris; Beckenham tournament; Northern tournament, at Manchester.

Golf: British amateur championship, at St Andrews; British women's professional championship, at Conway; Batley international tournament, at Bingley St Ives.

Racing: Meetings at Epsom, Haydock Park and Catterick Bridge. Equestrian: Royal Bath and West Show, at Shepton Mallett; Windsor trials.

Football: Under-21 international, Hungary v England, in Budapest.

Cycling: Milk Race, 11th stage, Newcastle to Harrogate.

Bowls: Kodak Masters, at Worthing.

Gardens open

TOMORROW: Brook Cottage, Alkerton, 6m W of Banbury—roses, shrubs and water garden, 2-7 pm, also open Sunday; Gruinard, Laide Autbea, Ross and Cromarty—garden of general interest.

SUNDAY: Silver Birches, Ling Lane, Scarcroft, 7m NE of Leeds—woodland garden, 2-6 pm; Gateway House, Basing View, Basingstoke, Hampshire—trees, shrubs, water garden, 2-6 pm; Brook House, Colwall, near Malvern, Hereford and Worcester—water garden, wall garden, trees and shrubs, 2-6.30 pm; London: 34 Lloyd Baker Street, Finsbury, and 28 Wharton Street, Finsbury—town gardens, 2.30-6 pm; Stretington, West Sussex, 3m NE of Chichester — several interesting gardens all owner maintained, 2-7 pm.

Personal column: Births, Marriages and Deaths are today on Page 26

Weather

Pressure will remain low to N and high to S of British Isles.

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Rain soon clearing, sunny intervals, isolated showers later; wind SW, moderate to fresh; max temp 16C (61F).

Midlands, E, Central N England: Sunny intervals, scattered showers later; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 16C (61F).

SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District: Sunny intervals and showers, becoming heavy at times later; wind SW to S, fresh or strong; max temp 15C (59F).

Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Rather cloudy with showers, becoming frequent and heavy at times; wind SW to S, fresh; max temp 14C (57F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: Sunny intervals, scattered showers developing; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 15C (59F).

NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy with showers or longer outbreaks of rain, heavy at times; wind mainly SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 10-12C (50-54F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Continuing unsettled with showers, heavy at times and perhaps prolonged in places in N; becoming generally cool.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind W, moderate, backing SW, increasing fresh or strong; sea moderate, becoming rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW, fresh or strong; sea rough.

Sun rises: 4.46 am. Sun sets: 9.12 pm. Moon rises: 7.54 am. Moon sets: 12.8 am tomor. First quarter: June 9.

Lighting up time

London 9.42 pm to 4.16 am.
Bristol 9.52 pm to 4.26 am.
Edinburgh 10.22 pm to 4.1 am.
Manchester 10.2 pm to 4.13 am.
Penzance 9.57 pm to 4.44 am.

Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

LONDON: Cosmos 151R 22.57-23.04: WSW; 75 WSW; ENE. Cosmos 956R 0.57-1.0: WSW*: 40 NW; N. Dod 22.19-22.23: SE; 45 ENE; N. Intercosmos 14R 23.09-23.14; NW; 45 WSW; S*. Seasat 23.26-23.35; NNE; 60 W; SW.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 151R 0.46-0.53: W; 60 NW; ENE. Cosmos 956R 0.57-1.0: SW*; 65 W; NNE. Dod 23.51-23.53: WSW; 10 W; WNW. Intercosmos 14R 23.08-23.14; NW; 45 WSW; S*. Seasat 23.26-23.35; NNE; 80 N; SW.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, University of Aston, Birmingham.

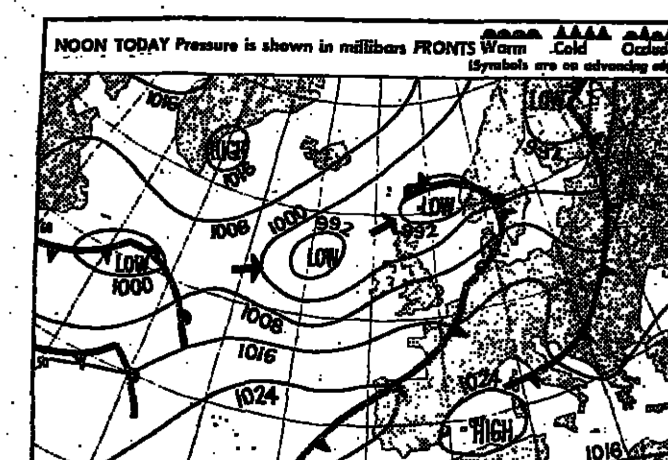
Yesterday's weather

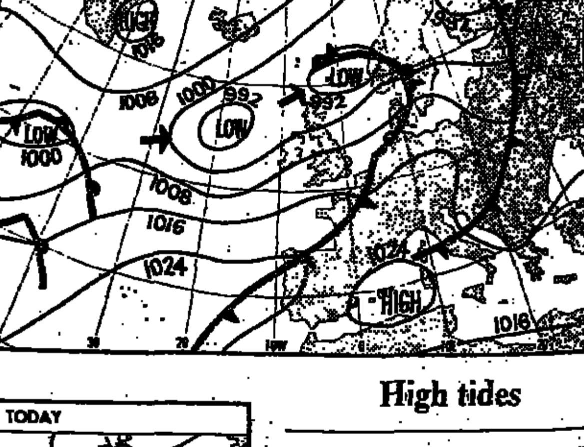
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain.

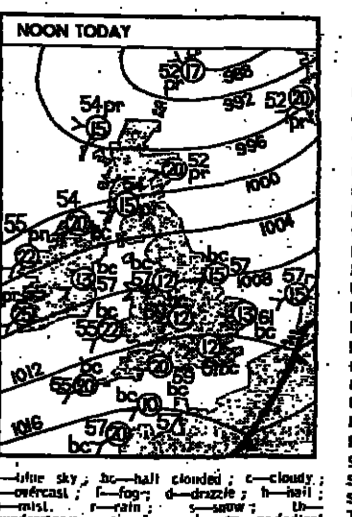
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	13	55	Guernsey	f	13	55
Birmingham	c	14	57	Jersey	c	17	63
Bristol	c	15	59	London	c	17	63
Cardiff	r	13	55	Manchester	r	14	57
Edinburgh	c	15	59	Newcastle	c	15	59
Glasgow	f	13	55	Ronaldsway	r	11	52

London weather

London: Temp: Max 7 am to 7 pm, 17C (63F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 11C (52F). Humidity, 7 pm, 70 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, a trace. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 5.4hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,013.1 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.







b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.29	7.5	4.55	7.2
Aberdeen	3.57	4.3	4.29	4.2
Avonmouth	10.12	13.4	10.22	13.2
Belfast	1.28	3.7	1.59	3.4
Cardiff	9.56	12.3	10.06	12.2
Devonport	9.00	5.3	9.17	5.4
Dover	1.31	6.7	2.00	6.6
Glasgow	3.22	4.9	3.53	4.7
Harwich	2.24	4.2	2.48	4.1
Holyhead	12.53	5.7	1.21	5.5
Hull	9.02	7.5	9.32	7.4
Leith	5.15	5.6	5.42	5.7
Liverpool	1.48	9.5	2.15	9.3
Lowestoft	12.06	2.6	12.20	2.5
Margate	2.37	4.9	3.04	4.8
Milford Haven	9.04	7.1	9.23	7.1
Oban	8.38	3.8	8.41	3.9
Portland	9.58	2.1	10.08	2.2
Portsmouth	1.56	4.8	2.30	4.7
Shoreham	1.40	6.3	2.14	6.3
Southampton	1.17	4.6	1.52	4.5
Swansea	9.15	9.5	9.32	9.4
Tees	6.23	5.5	6.54	5.4
Walton-on-the-Naze	2.14	4.4	2.38	4.2

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Yesterday at the resorts

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
E COAST					
Scarborough	2.8	.01	17	63	Rain pm
Bridlington	3.9	—	16	61	Sun ints
Gorleston	9.5	—	19	66	Sun pds
Clacton	9.0	—	17	63	Sun pds
Margate	7.7	—	18	64	Sun pds
S COAST					
Hastings	7.9	—	15	59	Sun pds
Eastbourne	10.1	—	16	61	Sunny
Littlehampton	7.5	.01	15	59	Shwr pm
Bognor	7.5	.02	15	59	Rain pm
Southsea	6.4	.04	15	59	Shwrs pm
Sandown	5.2	—	15	59	Sun ints
Falmouth	2.3	.35	14	57	Rain
W COAST					
Morecambe	1.9	.09	14	57	Rain pm
Blackpool	3.1	.04	15	59	Showers
Anglesey	2.0	.16	13	55	Rain
Ilfracombe	2.8	.12	15	59	Rain

Best and worst

Highest day temperature: Gorleston, Hemsby and Cromer, Norfolk; and Lowestoft, Suffolk, all 19C (66F). Lowest day maximum, Douglas, Isle of Man 11C (52F). Highest rainfall, Eskdalemuir .51 in. Highest sunshine, Skegness, Lincolnshire, 11.1hrs.

Weather abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain, s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	21	70	Copenhagen	r	15	59	Madrid	s	21	70	Rome	f	23	73
Akrotiri	s	25	77	Corfu	s	27	81	Majorca	f	24	75	Salzburg	r	15	59
Alexandria	s	25	77	Dallas	c	24	75	Malaga	s	23	73	Sao Paulo	c	17	63
Algiers	s	24	75	Dublin	c	13	55	Malta	s	29	84	S Francisco	s	24	75
Amsterdam	s	16	61	Dubrovnik	s	28	82	Melbourne	f	16	61	Seoul	f	24	75
Athens	s	26	79	Faro	s	21	70	Mexico City				Singapore	f	32	90
Bahrain	s	37	99	Florence				Miami				Stockholm	r	15	59
Barbados	c	28	82	Frankfurt	r	13	55	Milan	f	22	72	Strasbourg	c	13	55
Barcelona	f	22	72	Funchal	s	20	68	Montreal				Sydney	s	19	66
Beirut	s	26	79	Geneva	r	14	57	Moscow	f	17	63	Tangier	s	24	75
Belgrade	s	32	90	Gibraltar	s	24	75	Munich	r	14	57	Tel Aviv	f	24	75
Bermuda	f	27	81	Helsinki	c	17	63	Nairobi	c	22	72	Teheran			
Berlin	c	18	64	Hongkong	r	25	77	Naples	f	22	72	Tenerife	s	25	77
Biarritz	s	20	68	Innsbruck	s	12	54	New York				Tokyo	c	21	70
Boulogne	c	15	55	Istanbul	s	24	75	Nice	s	23	73	Toronto	f	22	72
Bordeaux	f	20	68	Jeddah	s	34	93	Oslo	f	20	68	Tunis	s	27	81
Boston	c	29	84	Johannesburg	f	14	57	Ottawa				Valencia	s	25	77
Brussels	f	17	63	Las Palmas	s	22	72	Paris	c	17	63	Vancouver	r	12	54
Budapest	f	31	88	Lisbon	r	18	64	Prague	f	20	68	Venice	s	27	81
Cairo	s	31	88	Locarno	f	20	68	Reykjavik	s	11	52	Vienna	s	26	79
Cape Town	c	14	57	Los Angeles	s	23	73	Rhodes	s	26	79	Warsaw	-	30	86
Casablanca				Cologne	r	12	54	Riyadh	s	46	115	Washington	r	30	86
Chicago	f	24	75	Luxembourg	r	11	52	Rio de Janeiro				Zurich	c	13	55